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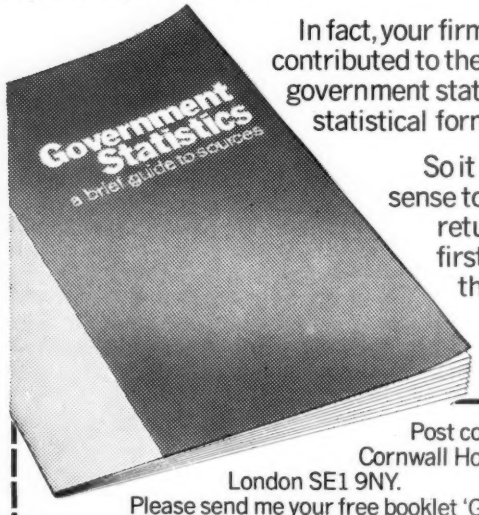

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Trade and Industry

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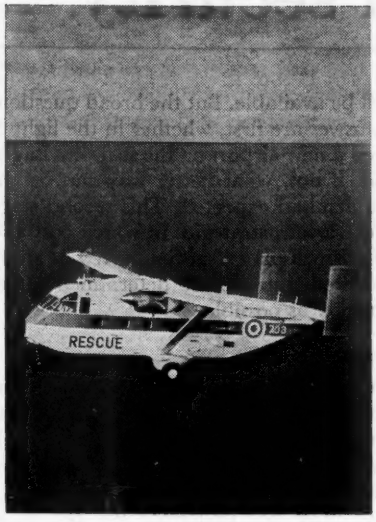

Aerospace exports . . . The cover picture shows one of six Short Skyvans recently delivered to Singapore, three of which are for search and rescue operations. Sales of the Belfast company's Skyvan have now passed the century mark. Britain had a record year for aerospace exports in 1973, with figures exceeding £500 million. A picture spread on the industry is published this week.

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Britain

Government policy on airports, aircraft noise and aviation security

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, outlined the Government's policy on aviation matters to a conference on world air transport in London on 8 May. This is the substance of what Mr. Clinton Davis said.

Air transport is a key British industry. We wish to promote its healthy expansion, doing all we can to see that everyone who flies or sends goods by air does so as safely, conveniently and cheaply as possible. At the same time we have to continue with measures to curb the nuisance and the environmental disturbance that air transport gives particularly around busy airports.

I propose to outline the Government's policy on airports, aircraft noise and aviation security and also to say a few words about relations between the Government and the aviation industry generally.

Maplin

First of all Maplin. You will know that in Opposition we were sceptical about this project and for a good many reasons. For example, recent studies of air traffic movements have by no means added support to the case for a third London airport at Maplin. The increasing use of bigger aircraft; progress towards quieter aircraft; and the possibility of slower growth in traffic as a result of the much higher cost of fuel have all combined to call into question the need for Maplin on both traffic and noise grounds.

These factors, coupled with the massive cost of the project and the need to consider the extent to which more traffic might be taken at regional airports, made it essential thoroughly to reappraise the bases on which the Maplin decision was taken way back in 1971.

One of our first acts therefore, on coming into office, was to put a review of Maplin in motion.

You will agree that decisions on a project which is so critical to the aviation industry; so important to the national economy and the regions; and so clearly affecting the environment should be reached only on the basis of the very best and latest information. It is also right that we should test our opinion in Opposition against the facts and figures presented to us on return to power.

Our review includes reappraising passenger demand and air traffic movements in the 1980s and 1990s – taking account of increased fuel prices and the larger aircraft coming into service. We shall also re-assess forecasts of noise around airports; and examine whether airports outside the south east could take a larger share of total United Kingdom traffic.

I do not pretend that by the time the Government makes its statement this summer comprehensive answers on the south east airport facilities will be available. But the broad questions I expect the review to answer are first, whether in the light of the new forecasts we need a new airport on the scale envisaged for Maplin; and second, if not, what better way can be envisaged of handling the demand expected. This second stage requires a comparison of various strategies in which cost and environmental implications will play a special part. The study must be carefully considered, but we are determined to resolve this question as quickly as possible.

Aircraft noise

Airports, wherever they are, inevitably cause disturbance. But this Government, like its predecessors, recognises that a great many people suffer far too much from aircraft noise. We shall therefore work towards a progressive reduction of this source of widespread annoyance.

At the same time we must not underrate the economic importance of civil aviation. For example the value of imports and exports through Heathrow alone amounts to over £2,400 million a year (in 1972, latest available figures) enough to make it the second port in the country – while the number of passengers handled exceeds 18½ million. So our aim is to cut down noise and disturbance without so damaging the air transport industry that cure is worse than the disease. What we cannot afford – particularly in the peculiarly hazardous economic times in which we live – is a loss of trade and of many jobs. We try hard therefore to maintain a necessary balance which we hope will be increasingly recognised by the various interests in this contentious and sensitive area.

With this in mind we shall strive to get a reduction in disturbance by all reasonable means: for example, by routeing and operational procedures; by noise insulation schemes; by restricting night movements; and in the long run, most important of all, by encouraging the introduction of quieter aircraft; and by working – at home and internationally – towards the quietening of engines in older aircraft.

Summer night jet movements at Heathrow and elsewhere have been steadily reduced in recent years and we aim to see that this trend continues.

As far as the older aircraft are concerned we are now conducting an exercise to see what the technical possibilities are for reducing noise levels, at what cost and within what timescale.

The Government is spending over £2 million a year on research and technology demonstrations aimed at the reduction of aircraft noise.

This of course excludes and is dwarfed by the costs of actually developing quieter engines which exploit the results. For example, the Government has a substantial investment in the continuing development of the RB211 which is already proving its value in the new range of quieter aircraft like the Tri-Star.

So while a dramatic fall in noise disturbance is just not on I believe we can now look for a steady overall reduction, and I hope that I said enough to establish the high degree of priority which this Government is giving to the subject of noise abatement.

Security

There is another matter of more serious concern to all of us. One of the evils of our time is the threat to millions of innocent passengers, aircrews and others who work in the air transport industry, from hijacking and other acts of terrorism.

Nothing can excuse the callous disregard of human life shown in incidents such as the one at Rome airport last December. This and other terrorist acts – including the hijacking of a British Airways VC10 to Amsterdam in March – underline the need for action and vigilance.

The Government keeps aviation security measures under close review in consultation with all those affected in the airlines at the airports and in the trade unions. But there can be no complacency. This Government will not hesitate to take and support whatever measures are appropriate to combat violence against civil aviation, however and wherever it may occur. Besides advice and guidance to airlines and airport authorities the Government is providing substantial financial assistance. This financial year I expect that Government expenditure on aviation security will amount to £3½ million.

I believe that one of the main lines of defence against hijacking must be comprehensive and efficient searching of passengers and baggage. I have, therefore, taken steps to ensure that all airlines, both British and overseas, search passengers on all their international scheduled services from our airports. To this end I succeeded in persuading a number of defaulting airlines to carry out 100 per cent checks in time to deal with the potentially dangerous situation over the Easter holidays.

I am also examining the role of private security organisations in searching passengers and baggage at our airports – something which has rightly posed a lot of questions.

I welcome the voluntary co-operation I have received from airlines. And I have been encouraged by the understanding and support which the travelling public have shown of the need for searching and other security measures.

You will know of the Government's recent decision to transfer responsibility for policing Heathrow Airport from the BAA Constabulary to the Metropolitan Police. This is not a criticism of the BAA police. Rather it is a reaction to the changing pattern of violence. It is a result of our practice of keeping aviation security under continuous review.

Over the past year or so the BAA Constabulary have had to rely increasingly and inevitably on the greater resources and experience of the Metropolitan Police in dealing with the threat of terrorism. This was particularly so following the violence at Rome Airport and the threat of missile attack earlier in the year. In the light of these events the Government concluded that the response to terrorism at Heathrow should be placed firmly and unmistakably under the control of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. It was suggested that while the Commissioner should be responsible for security at the Airport the BAA should still execute the other policing duties. We considered this very carefully but our conclusion was that this could lead to very real difficulties and that the best and most certain solution was to absorb the BAA Constabulary in effect into the Metropolitan Police.

We accept that the change will have wide implications for all those who work at Heathrow or use the airport. So we are now engaged in detailed consultations to make sure that when the change over takes place – after Parliament has approved the necessary, legislation – it can be achieved smoothly, efficiently and with the understanding and co-operation of everyone concerned.

Safety

While it is inevitable that as we approach very low risk levels the rate of improvement will slow down, the overall trend in the safety of British air transport operations remains favourable. The rate of fatal accidents per 100,000 stage flights for public transport passenger carrying services has improved from a figure of 0.62 for the period 1961-65 to 0.20 for the period 1971-73. However as the recent disaster to the DC10 aircraft of Turkish Airlines has emphasised there can never be any grounds for complacency in this field.

The Civil Aviation Authority are responsible for safety matters concerning British registered aircraft and they have assured the Government that they are satisfied with the safety measures taken by Laker Airways the only British operator of the DC10. These include modifications to the cargo doors and warning systems, pre-flight inspection by flight crew and precautionary procedures in the early stages of a flight. The Authority is in close contact with the FAA about additional safety measures that may be possible in the long term and is also re-examining the access doors of all pressurised aircraft over 12,500 lb. on the British register. The Authority has made it clear that it will not hesitate to take any further steps which in the light of further information appears to be necessary in the interests of safety.

From its earliest days the civil aviation industry has found the ingenuity and determination necessary to overcome innumerable problems. As a result it has a record of growth almost unparalleled elsewhere.

Today's central challenge is to find new ways to curb costs – no small task since fuel costs have risen so astronomically. Both airlines and manufacturers will have to use their imagination to a degree that has not been required of them before. At the same time, regulatory authorities in every country will need to respond to sound proposals with equal imagination.

I think our record in this country stands comparison with any other. For example, the steady elimination of price control on inclusive tour charters, coupled with measures to secure the interests of the scheduled airlines did an enormous amount of good in improving aircraft utilisation.

We have played a leading part in building up ICAO, in constructing joint policies within Europe and in fostering discussions between Europe, Canada and the United States about the extremely difficult problems of both scheduled and non-scheduled services on the North Atlantic. We spearheaded the introduction of advance booking charters and other changes in North Atlantic charter operations which have done so much to help bring order into this market. And I know that the Government agencies in this country concerned with the aviation industry – both the CAA and the BAA – will continue to pursue forward looking policies in the interests of airlines and their customers. In particular, these Government agencies are searching for ways of vigorously attacking their own costs where these bear on the industry. This attitude is encouraged by the principle – for some time accepted here and gaining ground elsewhere – that the cost of services to the industry, other than security, should be paid for by the users and not by the taxpayer.

While it is foolish to exaggerate the influence Governments can have, it is stupid to underrate it. This applies with particular force to an industry like air transport which is subject to close regulation by Government and whose very existence depends upon a web of multilateral conventions and bilateral agreements. Nor can Governments be indifferent to the health – and the conduct – of an industry whose fortunes affect the whole community so deeply.

We need continued partnership and understanding between the Government, its agencies, the industry and the public at large. I have in mind here, not only the travelling public but also those whose livelihood depends upon the aviation industry and those who are affected by its noise and other consequences in their daily lives. The Government has to take decisions on behalf of them all. Moreover, we need to build up partnership and understanding on an international scale. It is my overriding purpose to promote it.

Home News

Government initiative on strategic oil planning

The Government is to establish a clear planning framework within which its strategy for oil in Scotland can be developed, Mr. Bruce Millan, Minister of State, Scottish Office said in Edinburgh on 3 May. This would provide the means for central and local Government to ensure that the economic benefits of oil were not obtained at an unacceptable cost to Scotland's environment.

Mr. Millan outlined his proposals at a meeting of the Oil Development Council for Scotland in Edinburgh.

The Minister announced a number of steps towards this strategy which the Government was taking – with the Report 'North Sea Oil and the Environment' (prepared by a committee of the Council and published on 24 April very much in mind.

These are: The Secretary of State proposes to direct planning authorities to send him automatically details of major oil-related planning applications which they receive. At present, the Secretary of State does not necessarily know what planning applications have been lodged with local planning authorities. This will provide comprehensive and up to date knowledge of applications, to help the Government assess the overall impact of oil development in Scotland and to exert firmer control over it. A circular with the necessary direction will be issued to local planning authorities shortly.

This will be supplemented by technical advice from the Scottish Office to help local planning authorities to assess the impact of proposed developments.

The Government note that, in referring to planning procedure, the Committee's report takes the view that the statutory machinery is in general adequate. Much of the report's conclusions are in line with the Government's own thinking. In particular, as the Committee point out, much of the criticism of planning procedures is contradictory. The Government accept the Committee's basic point that the machinery has been devised and operated over many years to provide a fair balance between conflicting interest. As the Committee point out the real trouble is not basic defects in the whole system, but the stress upon it, and upon those who operate it, brought about by the speed and scale of North Sea oil developments in areas unused to big industrial change and development, and ill-staffed to cope with it. The Government is therefore glad to note the Committee's view that the statutory machinery itself is in general adequate and that what is needed is improvement of its operation. The Minister added that it was worth noting that thousands of planning applications are dealt with each year without undue delay or fuss. Only a very few – and these usually the most controversial – attract criticism. But the Government accept that everything possible should be done to reduce procedural or other delays. And in order to explore ways of improving the inquiry process and making it more effective the Scottish Office will shortly convene a group including representatives of the Council on Tribunals, the Faculty of Advocates and the Law Society of Scotland to consider this question. The Secretary of State is grateful to the Faculty, Council and Society for their ready agreement to take part in these discussions. The Government shall also be discussing these matters with local planning authorities who have the major interest in this.

The Minister of State emphasised that what is in mind in these discussions is *not* major changes – which would involve legislation – in the balance between the needs of developers and the rights of local communities, but an attempt to ensure that the whole inquiry process is conducted as quickly, economically and efficiently as possible. Public examination and discussion of controversial proposals is right and necessary, but the Government want to do everything possible to improve the effectiveness of this process.

The Committee's report also recommended that the Government should examine the possibility of public ownership of sites for major oil developments in environmentally sensitive areas. The Minister of State said that this would involve legislation and such legislation would at the same time provide the opportunity for considering whether any legislative changes were required in connection with planning matters. The Government had rejected the previous Government's proposed Bill because they felt it was specifically directed at the Drumbuie situation, and that it was undesirable that a Bill of this sort should in effect override the planning inquiry which was already in session. As the Secretary of State had made clear, he would consider the Drumbuie Report on its merits when it was received.

However, the Minister emphasised that the Government had not closed its mind to the possibility of new legislation if a thorough examination of the North Sea oil situation showed it necessary, and this legislation might include proposals for the acquisition of land for oil developments.

The Government also intend to issue further discussion documents about planning and North Sea oil. The Report 'North Sea Oil and the Environment' laid stress on the need to improve forward planning, and mentioned favourably the interim coastal planning framework. Much work has now been done on the west coast zone, and the Scottish Office is co-ordinating the efforts of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, the Countryside Commission for Scotland, and the Nature Conservancy Council.

The Scottish Development Department will shortly produce a further discussion paper dealing with pipeline landfalls. The paper will identify the broad areas where companies are most likely to wish to bring oil or gas ashore in the light of known discoveries. It will outline the nature and scale of development associated with landfall sites.

The aim of these discussion papers is to bring together information, to assist informed discussion of the problems, and above all to assist planning authorities in formulating ways of dealing with oil related developments. Those which have been issued have already made a significant contribution in all of these ways.

The Minister added that work was also in hand to analyse the planning conditions imposed on oil related development, and to see whether guidance could be given on the main aspects of development to which conditions should apply. These would include landscaping, layout of site works, and rehabilitation of the land.

Takeo Miki, Deputy Prime Minister and Director-General of the Environment Agency of Japan, chatting with Lord Balogh (left), Minister of State, when he called recently at the Department of Energy in London. Mr. Miki also had talks with Eric Varley, Secretary of State, Department of Energy.

Better insulation standards needed to combat energy waste

An appeal to industry to re-examine insulation standards so as to conserve energy was made in London on 8 May by Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Energy.

The occasion was the annual dinner of the Thermal Insulation Contractors Association. Although Mr. Eadie was unable to attend, his intended speech was read for him by an official of the Department. Mr. Eadie said that consumption of energy rose in Britain

by 18 per cent between 1950 and 1960, by 24 per cent from 1960 to 1970, and was still rising in 1973. Oil took the major share – not far short of half, at 159 million tons of coal equivalent. Coal contributed 131 mtce.

'Events have made it quite clear that we cannot go on like this,' he added. 'We can no longer assume that energy is a cheap resource. It is now an expensive commodity. The current and continuing fact of life is dear energy. We must learn to husband our resources.

'This situation is not of course confined to the United Kingdom. The United States of America has already realised the dangers of the profligate use of energy. Japan is in a particularly vulnerable position and the countries of the Common Market are seeking to create a European Energy Policy. In spite of our relatively fortunate position we cannot afford to relax our efforts to avoid wasting our valuable energy resources, which have taken millions of years to accumulate.

'Every effort must be made to use them efficiently and economically. We must adapt. We must try to increase our flexibility in fuel use to cope with future uncertainties. There is one fairly clear line of action we can take irrespective of which fuel we use. We can minimise the amount of energy required to perform the many processes which consume energy.

'In this field the use of thermal insulation – in which your membership has a vital role – can play an important part. We all know of the waste that occurs in many of our factories large and small all over the country. Some of this waste is due to inefficient boiler plant, lack of efficient control equipment and leaking process lines. But much of the wastage comes from the inadequate thermal insulation of boilers, process lines and process plant.

'In some cases this can be due to lack of good housekeeping where insulation is either completely absent, or to damaged and old insulation not being properly maintained. The remedy in these instances is fairly obvious and the inspection of lines and plant should be a continuing duty of all plant operators. Places where physical damage to insulation occurs should be properly protected.

'Thicknesses of insulation which are commonly provided seem to be determined on what was felt to be adequate in the past. But what was adequate in the past is not necessarily adequate now. What is more, by being inadequate it is costing money.

'It is not simply a question of being patriotic, of helping the balance of payments, by saving energy, using it efficiently. That is perhaps a good enough reason. But I am also appealing to self interest. You know it makes sense for all users of energy whether in the home, office or factory to save; to use energy carefully and well.

'That is why, through your organisation tonight, I am appealing to everyone to re-examine the standards which have been accepted so long as reasonable, if not good, practice. These considerations present a formidable exercise, particularly to organisations which do not have the benefits of expert advice. It is in this field that your association can help.

'Your expert knowledge is invaluable in the field of insulation – in advising on the best types of insulation to be employed in all the different applications of energy; the protective coverings which are best suited to the working environment of the equipment, and above all, the benefits in terms of energy saving that can be expected.'

The Queen is pictured during a visit to the British Steel Corporation's Anchor project at the Appleby-Frodingham works, Scunthorpe. With her is Mr. Ron Johnson, works manager, steel. Anchor is an important stage in BSC's plan to produce 38 million tonnes of UK steel a year by the 1980s. The Queen was accompanied on the visit by the Duke of Edinburgh. Lord Beswick, Minister of State, Department of Industry, was among the visiting party.

'Relative costs of different forms of energy must not be ignored' says Alex Eadie

'We have very substantial indigenous resources of energy but the days are over when, for all our bounty, we could sit around and squander it. We now have to consider very seriously how best we can use these resources,' said Mr. Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy in London on 6 May. Opening an international conference organised by the Institutions of Electrical Engineers on 'Energy, Europe, and the 1980s', the Minister said:

'Our overall objective must be to provide adequate and secure supplies of energy on the basis of a proper balance of resource costs as between various fuels. In other words, we must make sure that our country always has enough energy for its needs, but that in meeting those needs we must not – and cannot – ignore the relative cost of different forms of energy.

'At the same time we consider that flexibility needs to be given full weight. I do not need to remind this audience that any energy strategy must make full allowance for the unexpected, for the events which overnight upset all our calculations and require new plans and new responses.

'We have only to look back to last October to appreciate that. Our planning of energy supplies today is, I believe, moving steadily in the direction of this greater flexibility, with dependence on four fuels – coal, oil, gas and nuclear power – and a corresponding increase in our ability to adapt to circumstances as they arise.

'Price too is an important consideration. Adapting to higher prices is not at all a pleasant experience. It is even less pleasant in the sort of inflationary world in which we live. But it would be quite unrealistic to depend on energy prices becoming relatively as cheap as they were only last summer.

'But – to go back to our objective – this does not mean that we should go for indigenous energy at any price.

'We still need to look at the relative costs of competing fuels in reaching our decision. Indeed, in a competitive world we cannot avoid doing so. A very great deal is at stake, for the resources required to obtain our energy suppliers are truly enormous.

'I often hear suggestions that we should now move on to more novel forms of energy, such as solar energy, or tidal power, or wind power. Certainly we have got to look at these inexhaustible sources of energy. And we are doing so in the United Kingdom.

'But we cannot afford to take on these new sources regardless of economics. We can only do it if and when it pays us. And in most instances this appears at best to be a long way ahead.

'Another important part of our strategy, and this is bound up with prices, is the much greater need now for energy conservation, in the sense of greater efficiency in the use of energy; of cutting out waste.

'It has always made sense not to consume energy wastefully, even if none of us has always behaved sensibly.

'Energy is now expensive. It is now not merely sensible for individuals to husband their use of energy, it is going to pay them to do so. But we may well not be able to rely entirely on the fuel bill. We may well have to do more and this is why my Department is now formulating an overall energy conservation programme designed primarily to promote the efficient and economical use of fuels.

'The trouble with any conservation measures is that they tend to be slow acting. And what matters to us in the United Kingdom, in view of our massive new oil bill, on top of a balance of payments deficit, are savings now.

'Not that, of course, we shall be able to relax in 1980 when North Sea oil will be flowing ashore in quantity.

'We simply cannot allow this country to fall into the trap of believing that everything in the energy garden will be lovely by then.

'It won't. And even if it were it would not make sense, to go back to my earlier point, to burn away merrily and as fast as we can the riches buried under the North Sea.'

Bread subsidy rate raised

The bread subsidy rate is to be increased to prevent price rises in large and small loaves which would otherwise have taken place on 13 May, Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced in a statement in the House of Commons on 9 May. Mrs. Williams said:

'The Government have decided after consultations with representatives of the bakery industry to increase the rate of the bread subsidy in order to prevent price increases of 1½p on a large loaf and ½p on a small loaf that would otherwise occur on Monday 13 May following notifications to the Price Commission by the major plant bakers. The rate will accordingly be increased to £3.81 per 280 lb sack of flour used on or after Sunday 12 May in the production of loaves that qualify for the subsidy. At the same time in response to representations from Hon. Members and from consumers the coverage of the subsidy will be extended to include all loaves baked in tins and weighing 8 oz. to 10 oz. inclusive, but not to smaller loaves, fancy bread products or bread rolls. I will place the amended bread subsidy scheme in the Library as soon as possible.

'The cost of this increase in the rate of subsidy is provisionally estimated at £30.9 million in 1974/75, and at £35.7 million in a full year. These figures may be subject to some minor adjustment in the light of discussions I am having with the bakery industry about the method of calculating the rate of subsidy. I shall, of course, review the rate of subsidy if there are net reductions in the industry's allowable costs, for instance as a result of a drop in flour prices.

'Estimates will be laid before the House in the usual way, and in the meantime it will be necessary to have recourse to the Contingencies Fund.'

The bread subsidy announced in the House of Commons by Mrs. Williams on 20 March prevented increases of ½p in the price of almost all loaves weighing 14 oz. or more. The estimated cost of offsetting the price rises, which would otherwise have taken place on 25 March, was stated in the House of Commons on 9 April to be £17 million for 1974/75.

The scheme will continue to be administerd by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Any baker who requires further information should get into touch with his trade association or with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Government Buildings, Epsom Road, Guildford.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed merger of International Harvester Co./Seddon Diesel Vehicles Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is greeted by John Freeman on arrival at Brighton for the Advertising Association conference, of which Mr. Freeman was chairman. In the centre is Jimmy Williams, director general of the association. Mr. Freeman is also chairman of London Weekend Television. Speeches by Mrs. Williams and John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, were reported last week.

Monopolies Report on Cross-Channel Car Ferries

The industrial dispute which delayed publication of the Monopolies Commission's Report on Cross-Channel Car Ferry Services has now been settled and the report was published on 7 May.

Associated Newspapers and Courier Printing & Publishing Company Limited

Consent has been given to the transfer of Courier Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. to Associated Newspapers Group Ltd.

In a written reply in the House of Commons on 7 May to a question from Mr. J. F. Ovenden (Gravesend), Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said:

'I received the report on 23 April and it is being published this afternoon. The Commission has concluded that the transfer may not be expected to operate against the public interest. Formal consent is being given to the Associated Newspapers Group Ltd. today.'

Assurances have been given to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that each newspaper concerned in the transfer would be continued as a separate newspaper for at least seven years, and that it was intended to preserve the independence of the editors of the Courier Newspapers. The newspapers concerned are:

The Kent and Sussex Courier
The Tunbridge Wells Advertiser
The Sevenoaks Chronicle
The Sevenoaks News
The East Grinstead Courier

The report (H.C. No. 108) has been published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office (price 22p net).

Committee of Inquiry into the Future of Broadcasting

The Home Office announced on 6 May that Miss Jean M. Goose will be Secretary to the Committee of Inquiry into the Future of Broadcasting, under the chairmanship of Lord Annan. The Committee will have its offices at Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UA. Correspondence should be sent to the Secretary at that address.

Price Commission statement on cement prices

The Price Commission announced on 6 May that, in view of statements which have appeared in the Press about increases in cement prices, they have been notified of no intended increases approaching the figures of 40 to 45 per cent which have been mentioned. They have recently partly rejected notifications from Ribblesdale Cement Ltd. and Tunnel Cement Ltd. The increase notified by Ribblesdale which was 17.48 per cent has been reduced to 15.91 per cent. In the case of Tunnel the increase claimed was 23.94 per cent and it has been reduced to 22.10 per cent. In order to avoid any misunderstanding which may exist the Commission wish to make it clear that no increase by these companies in any part of the country should exceed these percentages.

The Commission say that if they reduce the price increase notified by any other cement company, they will make a further announcement.

Price Commission interventions during April

In April, the Price Commission rejected 144 pre-notifications of price increases from Category I and II companies, mainly on the following grounds: failure to supply the required information; exceeding the net profit margin reference level; or the selection of an unrepresentative base period. Claims for 42 price increases were withdrawn by the companies concerned and, in addition, the Commission modified 64 pre-notifications. See lists below.

Since the beginning of Stage 3 last November, the Commission has rejected a total of 849 pre-notifications and modified a further 304; 177 claims were withdrawn by the companies concerned. In terms of trading sector, 113 claims from food manufacturers were either rejected or withdrawn, 763 from non-food manufacturers and 140 from service industries.

During April, agreement was reached with Category II distributors to secure price reductions amounting to some £1,193,000 to eliminate excess profits as revealed in their quarterly returns. These included £226,000 from one timber distributor and £120,000 from a retail distributor. Total reductions in the distributive sector of Category II to date (that is, from the beginning of Stage 2) now amount to some £13.5 million. In addition, the Regional Centres of the Price Commission secured 1,890 voluntary price reductions from local firms during March.

The Price Commission can intervene at any time following the receipt of pre-notifications submitted by Category I and II companies, during or after the 28 and 14 day periods which must respectively elapse before the increases can be implemented. Announcements about price increases occurring after the pre-notification periods have expired, where the Commission have not invervened, are the responsibility of the companies imposing them.

Rejections

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
AEI Power Cables Ltd.	Cables	37.15
Albright & Wilson Ltd. (Ind. Chem. Divn.)	Phosphorous derivatives	8.50
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd.	Cements	17.59
	Special cements	25.64
B.O.C. Transhield Ltd.	Ambient merchandise in carton trays and chilled merchandise Transport	10.10
Barrow News & Mail Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Advertising rates	16.67–20.00
Bedford County Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
	Printing, etc	
The Berrows Organisation Ltd.	Rates for advertisements and selling prices	Various
Bill Switchgear Ltd.	Electric switch, fuse gear, distribution panels and boxes	15.00
Bradford & District News Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Electricity generation at Calder Hall Power Station	12.60 + £0.26 million
Bucks Free Press Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Contract printing	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
John H. Burrows and Sons Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
Cadbury Schweppes Foods Ltd.	Catering packs of tea	6.88
The London Electric Wire Co. Ltd.	Covered wire and strip	17.30
Northern Press Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
North of England News Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
Oxford Mail & Times Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
C. M. Peacock Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Contract selling	Not specified
	General printing	
	Advertising rates	
	Photograph sales	
Philips Domestic Appliances	Twintub washing machines	8.53
	Automatic washing machines	9.74
RTZ Extruders Ltd. (RTZ Services Ltd.)	Aluminium extrusions	15.00
Rawling & Walsh Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Advertising rates	Not specified
Satchwell Control Systems Ltd.	Electrical controls, motors and valves for heating	6.91
Satchwell Sunvic Ltd.	Temperature control equipment and timers	5.94
Shell Chemicals (UK) Ltd.	Polystyrene, resins, detergents, lubricants, etc.	29.00
SE London & Kentish Mercury Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Advertising rates	Not specified
Southern Publishing Co. Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Advertising rates	Not specified
Wessex Newspaper Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
Westmorland Gazette Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
Wiltshire Newspaper Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Advertising rates	Not specified
York & County Press Division (Westminster Press Ltd.)	Cover price	Not specified
	Advertising rates	
Category II		
Adcock-Shipley	Various machines	19.03-38.00
Armstrong Patents Co.	Telescopic shock absorbers, automotive components and fastenings	11.24
Ablex Tools Ltd.	Plastic Mouldings	25.10
Aberthaw and Bristol Channel (Portland Cement Co. Ltd.)	Cement	19.40 + £0.16 per ton
Baker Perkins Ltd.	All machines	5.56
	Spares for – bakery, biscuit, chemical, laundry and printing industries	6.00
The British Dredging Co. Ltd.	Supply and delivery of ready mixed concrete	1.037
Brocklehurst Yarns Ltd.	Polyester	1.82
	Polyamide yarns	6.22
Bulpitt & Sons Ltd.	Royal kettle	8.78
	Regal kettle	5.49
	Spare element	7.14
	Stainless steel tableware	10.99
	Copper tableware	13.88
	Aluminium tableware	9.15
	7.5 KVA generator	14.15
	18.75 KVA generator	14.71
	25.0 KVA fenerator	18.13
British Reinforced Concrete Eng. Co. Ltd.	Welded steel mesh and reinforcing bars	13.51
J. C. Bamford Excavators Ltd.	JCB 806 excavator	7.77
	JCB 807 excavator	9.00
	JCB 413 Wheeled loading shovel	7.50
	JCB 418 Wheeled loading shovel	7.50
Brockhouse Castings Ltd.	Steel castings	7.80
The Belfast Steamship Co. Ltd.	All freight charges	15.00
Canning Town Glass Works Ltd.	Container glassware	15.22
Crane Ltd.	Service and repair of meters	60.00
Cummins Engine Co. Ltd.	Diesel engines and spare parts	15.00
	Diesel engines and spares	6.00
	Diesel engines and spares	6.00
Coalite Oils & Chemicals Ltd.	Cresylic creasote 25/30 per cent	39.98
Caledonian MacBrayne and David MacBrayne Ltd.	Shipping services and fares	25.00
Crosby & Co. Ltd.	Doors	Not specified
Chubb Wardens Ltd.	Manned security services in the Midland, North East, North West and Scottish Regions.	10.70
Cam Gears Ltd.	Automotive components	4.10-28.00
Dowty Hydraulic Units Ltd.	Pumps and HM motors	5.00
	Pumps and GM motors	20.00
Dufaylite Developments	Packaging dividers, structural and resinated honeycomb	12.10
Durham Chemicals Ltd.	Chemlok Adhesives 205	24.60
	217	18.49
	220	5.23
	222	7.15
	231	9.14
	236	22.13
	607	1.61
	Zince sulphate	20.49
	Zinc carbonate	18.92
	Zinc oxide	15.19
	Zinc dust	33.89
	Precipitated metallic stearates	15.17
	Direct Metallic stearates	14.98
	Lead stearate A	16.76
	Plasticisers	31.26
De La Rue Instruments Ltd.	Service and maintenance contracts	11.34
	Note counting machine 504	7.84
	Cheque master machine	14.20
Elkes Biscuits Ltd.	Biscuits and cakes	7.66
Elvicta Wood Engineering Ltd.	Furniture	42.40
Elkes Biscuits Ltd.	Biscuits and Cakes	5.37
English Abrasives Ltd.	Coated abrasive products	21.40
	Coated abrasives	19.50
Firsteel Ltd.	Cold rolled strip	31.30
Fafnir Bearing Co. Ltd.	Ball, roller and wide inner ring bearings	7.50

Company	Product	% increase sought
Formica (UK) Group Ltd.	Decamel	15.00
	Formica sheet industrial grade group (copper clad, electrical and commercial)	5.70
Hostess Furniture Ltd.	Seating, tables, lockers, etc.	6.50
Hercules Powder Co. Ltd.	Defoamer 4 (chemical)	15.97
Hago Products Ltd.	Wire, tube and plastic products	5.00
Ideal Standard Ltd.	Road haulage	5.90
BTR Industries Ltd.	Selected rubber and plastic products	11.92
IPD Industrial Ltd.	Central heating radiators, storage heaters, presswork and food products	12.00
Jones Cranes Ltd.	Cranes and spares	10.20
Joseph Dawson Ltd.	Lambswool combings	18.24
Johnson Bros. Ltd.	Earthenware and tableware	12.50
James North and Sons Ltd.	P.V.C. gloves	12.27
Kingston Minerals Ltd.	Quarrying	5.46
	Aggregate	13.27
	Crushed stone	17.00
	Pumice blocks	24.57
	Dense concrete blocks	10.17
	Castletown Pier	9.67
	Own haulage	9.52
Lloyds and Scottish Group	Leasing plant and machinery	From £1.50 per month to £1,000
Lemark Ltd.	Metal pressings	13.35
Longmore Brothers Ltd.	Precision tube, and galvanised and enamelled conduit	10.87
Myson Heat Exchangers Ltd.	Fan convector heaters	10.41
Magnet Joinery Ltd.	Doors and joinery	25.00-70.00
Masons Ironstone Ltd.	Ironstone, china, tableware and giftware	10.00
Monsanto Ltd.	Acrylonitrile	£5.27 per tonne
	Montopore	£12.39 per tonne
	Lustrex	£12.28 per tonne
	Lustran	£6.13 per tonne
ICC Machines Ltd.	Paper shredding machines	11.70
Nairn Dunbar Ltd.	Range of tufted, knitted and simulated fur fabric	13.30-40.70
Norprint Ltd.	Films, papers and associated products for printing industry	6.60
	Industrial labelling systems	Various
J. Parkinson & Son (Shipley) Ltd.	Machine tools, attachments, cutters and spare parts	15.00
Pratt Burnerd Ltd.	Work holding equipment for lathes	12.00
Platt International Ltd.	Roller covering and re-grinding service	10.00
Precision Studios Ltd.	Glaze, underglaze, inglaze and enamel decoration	15.00
	Gold patterns	7.50
Rugby Portland Cement Ltd.	Cement	19.47
Ross Warmafoam Ltd.	Polystyrene products	15.00
	Adhesives	11.90
Revertex Ltd.	Sound insulation pads and mats	7,36
Ribblesdale Cement Ltd.	Cement	19.67
C. E. Ramsden & Co. Ltd.	Materials for glass, brick and ceramic industries	1.00
Rose Forgrove Ltd.	Packaging machines and spares	5.19
	Range of bearings	9.50
Sperry Vickers Aero Division	Hydraulic products for aircraft industry	10.30
Sanyo Marubeni (UK) Ltd.	Electronic equipment	Not specified
Stainless Steel Plant Ltd.	Type J 50 pump bodies	13.18
	Type J 70 pump bodies	10.40
Steelfab Ltd.	Agricultural equipment	12.64
	Agricultural equipment	12.64
The Sheaffer Pen Co.	Writing instruments	10.90
Sperry Rand Ltd. Gyroscope, Division	Aeronautical equipment and spares	6.17
Soil Fertility Dunns Ltd.	Agricultural lime	3.35
	Gafsa fertiliser	10.91
Tunnel Cement Ltd.	Cement	22.98 + £0.33
Thomas Wragg & Sons (Sheffield) Ltd.	Fireclay special products, Flocon and inner nozzles, etc.	7.14
United Fireclay Products Ltd.	Fire bricks	17.48
Uniroyal Ltd.	Waterproof footwear	10.00
The Union Cartage Ltd.	Haulage and workshop charges	36.90
Viota Foods Ltd.	Cake mixes and desserts	14.00
	Breakfast cereals	7.25
Volex Electrical Ltd.	Electrical cables	12.13
Valetines of Dundee Ltd.	Greetings cards and gift wrap	10.34
Willeys of Exeter Ltd.	Iron and non-ferrous castings	11.00
Warwick Rim & Sectioning Co. Ltd.	Cold rolled metal sections	14.90
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.	Ovigest 25 ml	11.50
	Swine Erysipelas Vaccine 30 ml	8.50
York Trailer Co. Ltd.		
Trailer Division	Trailers	14.50
Tees Division	Vans	10.50
Truck Equipment Division	Trailer spares	11.50
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd.	Dextrin based adhesives	5.74
Yate Foundry Ltd.	Iron castings	14.50

Withdrawals

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd.	Beer (wholesale)	1.82
	Beers, wines, spirits, minerals, food and accommodation in managed houses	0.66
British Celanese Ltd.	Polymer-based industrial yarns	20.42
British Rail Shipping and International Services Division	Shipping charges	11.78
Burmah Castrol Co.	Lubricants	5.23
Callard & Bowser, Nuttall Ltd.	Confectionery	4.14
Capseals Sacks Ltd.	Paper sacks	5.06
CAV Ltd.	Entire range of products excluding inline pumps for the OE market service	2.60
Delta Enfield Cables (Holdings) Ltd.	Rubber and plastic insulated cables	5.30
GKN Sankey Ltd.	Tractor, truck and earthmover wheels	2.81
GKN Somerset Wire Ltd.	Wire and strand	3.32
GKN (South Wales) Ltd.	Wire	4.00
	Nails	4.16
Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co. Ltd.	E.C.V. belts	9.80
	Waterstops	18.50
	Conveyors and transmission	9.00
	Diaphragms	5.80
	Wire house	5.50
ICI Ltd.	Caustic soda, solid	5.68
	Caustic soda, flake and pearl	6.11
	Vinyl chloride monomer	£10.67 per tonne
Imperial Metal Industries Ltd.	Titanium and titanium alloy wrought products	8.71
ITT Consumer Products (UK) Ltd.	Audio Unit Model KA2015	3.82
The Nestle Co. Ltd.	Milk products and desserts	16.14
F A. Power Ltd.	Flattened wire products	2.99
Unigate Foods Ltd.	Evaporated milk	8.609
	Cheese	2.10
	Canned milk puddings	6.88
	Cream	4.62
	Milk products for industrial uses	2.71
	Miracle spray dried milk powder	4.30
	Baby milks	5.24

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Industrial and commercial property

Company	Product	% increase sought
John Wilkinson & Sons (Saltley) Ltd.	Rolled metal manufacturing charges	6.70
Yorkshire Imperial Metals Ltd.	Tubes, tube plates, valves, etc.	9.28
Category II		
Associated Biscuits Ltd.	Christmas puddings and tins of biscuits	31.12
Bridon Wire Ltd.	High carbon wire, strand stainless steel wires and PVC covering extras	3.08
Brockhouse Engineering Ltd.	Torque convertors and transmissions	10.00
Barton Conduits Ltd.	All products	10.80
Croda Food Ingredients Group Ltd.	Lactic acid	8.97
	Lactic acid	13.71
Dowty Mining Equipment Ltd.	Range of hydraulically-operated roof supports for mining industry	3.36
Follsain-Wycliffe Foundries Ltd.	Iron and steel castings	2.75
Geo. Payne & Co. Ltd.	Tea	25.16
Harding Machine Tools	High precision lathes and equipment	11.08
Morlock Industries Ltd.	Spring washer, brazing rings, circlips and pressings	22.80
Metal Die Castings Doehler Ltd.	Aluminium and zinc castings	6.00
Protective Papers Ltd.	Processed paper for packaging	11.61
Sheffield Rolling Mills Ltd.	Bright steel bars	19.50
	Bright bar products	1.48
Sperry Remington Ltd.	Manual typewriters	36.00
	Electric typewriters	10.50
TPT Ltd.	Board	2.12
Wickman Scrivener Ltd.	Grinding machines	6.49

Modifications

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made
Category I			
ABMG (Syrups) Ltd.	Barley syrup and malt extract	16.25	0.73
Ablex Tools Ltd.	Plastic mouldings	27.873	0.003
Black Automatic Controls Ltd.	Industrial control valves	2.58	0.83
BICC Ltd. (Unit No. 1)	Plastic and elastomeric covered general wiring cables	11.09	0.65
British Domestic Appliances Ltd.	Domestic appliances and chemical plant equipment	11.16	4.86
British Oxygen Co. Ltd. (Welding Products Division)	Light industrial miscellaneous gas equipment, nozzles, rods, and fluxes	20.00	0.34
Chance Brothers Ltd.	Soda lime tubing	12.50	7.00
	Lead glass tubing	6.00	3.00
	Other glass-ware	15.00	7.50
Computer Leasings Ltd.	Computer leasings	13.13	5.25
Covrad Ltd.	Complete range of products (presswork)	10.80	2.99
Dairy Produce Packers Ltd.	Cheese spread	13.23	0.77
Fibreglass Ltd.	Reinforcement glass fibre products	7.60	1.90
GEC Machines Ltd.	Medium industrial machines	21.70	5.60
GEC – Xpelair Ltd.	Extractor fans, fan heaters, etc.	22.80	4.60
Girling Ltd.	Vehicle braking, actuation and suspension products	8.08	0.64
ICI Ltd.	'Alkathene'	18.00	0.88
		+£0.05 per tonne	+£0.05 per tonne
	Aromatic products	7.09	£0.45
		+£4.26 per tonne	per tonne
	Black Powder	8.26	1.76
	Cereclor	13.337	0.007
		+£2.73 per tonne	
	Chlorobenzenes	31.367	0.007
	Cracker products	4.37	£0.76
		+£3.81 per tonne	per tonne
	Decorative paint	10.02	0.02
		+£0.87 per litre	
	Diphenylamine	58.88	6.77
	Melinex film	16.15	£2.64
		+£2.64 per tonne	per tonne
	Mono glycolethers	24.19	0.01
(Organics Division)	Polyol products	25.67	£2.82
		+£2.82 per tonne	per tonne
	Refined isopropanol	35.84	0.02
	Sodium carbonate	19.905	0.005
International Computers Holdings Ltd.	Hire and sale of computer system components	4.15	0.52
Joseph Lucas (Batteries) Ltd.	Lead acid batteries	7.50	0.10
		25.80	0.08
	Replacement batteries	7.71	0.03
Midland Electrical Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	Electric switch, fuse gear, motor control gear and electrical accessories	9.60	1.30
The Nestle Co. Ltd.	Catering pickles and sauces	20.16	0.13
Park Cake Bakeries Ltd.	Cakes	21.99	0.35
Petters Ltd.	Diesel and petrol engines, transport, refrigeration generator sets and spares	12.87	0.87
Pilkington Brothers Ltd.	Colour television glassware	7.50	0.60
	Monochrome television glassware	10.00	0.80
Radiation Gas Fires Ltd.	Gas fires, gas and electric incinerators and spares	9.64	1.12
Reckitt and Colman (Toiletries Division)	Supersoft hairspray	10.87	0.23
Scot Bowyers Ltd.	Canned meat products	12.84	0.23
Spillers, French Milling Ltd.	Biscuit and other soft flours	9.97	0.45
Henry Telfer Ltd.	Range of meat products	1.16	0.16
Trust Houses Forte Hotels Ltd.	Accommodation, catering and other services	11.21	0.88
Typhoo Tea Ltd.	Tea and tea bags	9.22	0.62
Watney Mann Ltd.	Beer manufacture, and beers, wines, spirits, catering and apartment charges in managed public houses	5.10	0.23
Category II			
Antler Ltd.	Luggage	14.30	4.22
BSD Scotland Division of A. G. Barr & Co. Ltd.	Soft drinks	9.18	2.80
Bell Punch Co. Ltd.	Ticket issuing, coin sorting machines, fare collecting systems, calculators, business systems, machines (parts only) and totalisators, etc.	13.25	12.15
Baker Perkins Ltd.	Machines and spares	5.61	0.62
British Reinforced Concrete Eng. Co. Ltd.	Welded steel mesh and reinforcing bars	13.51	3.17
BSD England Division of A. G. Barr Co. Ltd.	Soft drinks	8.60	4.57
AMF Clarbro Ltd.	Elastic clothing and bedding tapes	14.36	4.54
Edgar Allen Foundry Ltd.	Steel castings	9.00	0.30
Hailwood Ackroyd Ltd.	All engineering original equipment and spares	9.23	1.09
Hill Denison Ltd.	Lace net curtains and curtain fabric	15.20	2.96
BTR Industries Ltd.	Selected rubber and plastic products	11.00	0.46
Jones Woodhead Ltd.	Various springs	14.29	2.86
Kellogg Company of GB Ltd.	Breakfast cereals	16.63	0.86
Nabisco Ltd.	Biscuits	1.010	0.093
Pratt Precision Hydraulics Ltd.	Hydraulic equipment	16.00	0.21
Reads Ltd.	Metal containers, beverage cans	13.50	0.10
The Steetley Co. Ltd.	Haulage	6.23	0.03
Sterling Coated Materials Ltd.	Coated and laminated papers, plastic films and metal foils	15.28	3.23
Talbot Co. Ltd.	Gunmetal fittings	17.00	0.06
	Brass fittings	18.00	0.05
	Iron fittings	15.50	0.42
Tinsley Wire Industries Ltd.	Industrial and agricultural wires	14.14	0.45
Whitworths Holdings Ltd.	Bakers and strong flours	£1.26 per 280 lb sack	£0.03 per 280 lb sack

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Gregor MacKenzie opens Small Firms Information Centre

Gregor MacKenzie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, opened a Small Firms Information Centre in London on 15 May. Mr. MacKenzie has recently been given responsibility for Small Firms within the Department of Industry.

One of the problems facing the small business today is where to go for advice on a wide range of problems and a national network of Information Centres is now being opened throughout Britain. These Centres offer a free 'Signposting' service to small firms and to people wishing to set up in business, to assist them in finding the right sources of advice for any problem.

The Small Firms Information Centre at 65 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1 near Victoria Station, will serve many thousands of small businesses in the Greater London Council area, and Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. The service is designed to operate quickly, principally by telephone, and a 'Freefone' service is available. The manager and his staff are also pleased to see callers at the specially designed shop premises, where immediate help can usually be given from the nationwide data bank to which the London Centre is linked.

Design Council tribology exhibition in Wales

Tribology – the science and technology of friction, lubrication and wear – is the theme of the latest exhibition at The Design Council's new showroom in Wales. In Wales tribology is being actively developed by the Swansea Tribology Centre, one of the three centres in the UK sponsored by the Department of Industry.

Organised jointly by the Design Council and the Department of Industry, the exhibition will run until 24 May, highlighting the work of the Swansea Tribology Centre and bringing together some of the current knowledge on tribology with exhibits ranging from a plastic heart-valve test rig to lubricant oils showing visible biological deterioration.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
22 April 1974		
955,843	Dowty Mining Equipment Limited	Roof supporting device suitable for use in mines
1,045,184	Agfa Aktiengesellschaft	Sensitisation of photographic silver halide emulsions
1,091,601	Dowty Mining Equipment Limited	Roof supports suitable for use in a mine
1,093,586	Societe Anonyme Andre Citroen	Improvements in hydraulic transmission devices
1,105,864	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Developer for the production of blue-black image tones
1,125,646	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Process for the production of photographic images
1,155,035	Gevaert-Agfa N V	Thermographic recording process
1,195,841	Gevaert-Agfa N V	Thermographic recording process
1,225,754	Agfa-Gevaert	Method of improving the resistance of a polymer resist to an aqueous etching solution
1,265,440	Cycles Peugeot	Improvements in or relating to handling trucks
1,277,912	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Electro-acoustic transducers
1,277,913	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Electro-acoustic transducers
1,330,399	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	A process for the production of photographic images
1,333,153	Marcel Pierre Alexis Bouhot	Torque limiting device
25 April 1974		
990,458	Herbert Dultgen	Telescopic umbrella
1,024,513	Societe Anonyme Andre Citroen	Improvements in disc brakes controlled by a pair of levers in particular for automobile vehicles
1,090,153	Decca Limited	Improvements in or relating to chart position indicating apparatus
1,121,357	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Hydrophilic layers comprising as additives latices containing fluoralkyl groups
1,129,356	Afga-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Chemical sensitization of photographic silver halide emulsions
1,136,361	Societe Anonyme Andre Citroen	Improvements in or relating to braking systems of articulated vehicles
1,136,876	Societe Anonyme Andre Citroen	Improvements in or relating to braking systems of articulated vehicles
1,150,392	Societe Anonyme Andre Citroen	Improvements in liquid fuel injection devices for free piston internal combustion engines
1,167,472	Herbert Dultgen	Improvements in or relating to self-opening umbrellas
1,232,916	Citroen S A	Improvements in or relating to machine tools
1,232,917	Citroen S A	Improvements in or relating to machine tool control systems
1,327,501	Italsider SpA	A railway wagon
2 May 1974		
1,089,130	Kay Manufacturing Corporation	Improvements in or relating to moulding apparatus and method
1,101,693	Kay Manufacturing Corporation	Improvements in or relating to a method of moulding and transporting gel-state foam
1,198,073	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Photographic processing device
1,200,994	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Temperature compensation of waveguide filters
1,265,749	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Electrolytic capacitors
1,270,042	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Optical filters
1,278,182	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Document transport
1,280,493	Saseb SA	Catch for vehicle doors
1,311,756	Medicor Muvek	An electrically-operable pneumatic valve
1,329,532	Nippon Hoso Kyakai	Improvements in frequency changing and multiplying

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Industrial promotion tour of USA by NI Minister of Commerce

At least four major American industries are expected to visit Northern Ireland in the near future to assess its potential as a manufacturing base, following a 10-day United States industrial promotion tour by the Minister of Commerce, Mr. John Hume.

As well, a number of other companies, including one whose interest was sparked off by a major coast-to-coast television appearance by the Minister, have indicated that Northern Ireland will go back on their list of possible locations for European investment.

'This is a better result than I had initially expected from the tour,' said Mr. Hume after returning home last week from his 3,000 mile, eight-city visit to the mid-west and east coast of America.

'For a variety of reasons, although not necessarily all of them related to our situation, the level of investment by US industry in Northern Ireland has not been anything like that recorded in the 1960s. Our primary task, therefore, is clearly to reactivate the interest by ensuring that industrialists are aware of our opportunities; that they know all that has been happening and not just what has been recorded by American newspapers and television,' he said.

To achieve this Mr. Hume said he had used every possible opportunity. Through individual contact with industrialists, at luncheons and other official engagements, in statements to the press and in interviews on television and radio he had advocated the advantages of Northern Ireland as an investment area, based on the package of financial incentives available and the industrial progress achieved in the past few years.

His programme reflected the intensity of this effort. In 10 days he visited eight cities – Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Detroit, New York, Boston, Washington and Pittsburgh – and in that time talked to over 30 industrialists, bankers and financiers, visited the headquarters of several major companies, carried out 11 speaking engagements and gave 20 press, radio and television interviews.

DTI film wins gold award at Belgrade festival

The film *Laser Holography – a New Tool for Measurement* received a gold award at the recent 1974 International Festival of Scientific and Technical Films held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. It was made by the Central Office of Information on behalf of the former Department of Trade and Industry and was produced by British Films Ltd.

A film of specific interest to engineers in industry, research workers and students, it demonstrates the principles and some of the applications of holography, in which a split laser-beam records on a photographic plate a three-dimensional image of the object to be measured. This technique, largely pioneered by the National Physical Laboratory, is used in different ways for the study of stress vibration, deformation, and for non-destructive testing.

The film has a running time of 25 minutes and 16 mm prints are available on hire or sale from the Central Film Library, Government Building, Bromyard Avenue, London W3 7JB, and its associate libraries in Scotland and Wales.

New factory for Bridgend estate

The Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation has announced that work will begin shortly on the building of a larger factory for D. K. D. Engineering Co. Ltd. on the Bridgend Industrial Estate in place of the company's existing premises on the estate. The new factory, which has an area of 10,000 sq. ft. is scheduled for completion in November 1974.

D. K. D. Engineering Co. Ltd., a light engineering firm, plans to increase its labour force on completion of these new premises.

The architects are Anthony B. Davies and Associates, Bridgend, the quantity surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners, Treforest, and the building contractors are G. and M. Bryant Ltd., Bridgend.

Northern Region Airports Study

The Civil Aviation Authority has received the Northern Region Airports Study which was undertaken on behalf of the Authority and the local authority owners of Carlisle, Newcastle and Teesside airports by Alan Stratford and Associates. The consultants' report, which was published on 8 May, was commissioned in the autumn of last year.

The Authority regards the report as a useful contribution to the range of national airport planning work being carried out by or for the Authority. The Authority is considering the recommendations contained therein, and will be making its own views on the study known as soon as possible. The Authority's views will form the basis of advice to the Government on airport policy to be pursued in the region.

Half the cost of the study was met by the three local authority airport committees, the remainder being sponsored by the Department of Trade through the Civil Aviation Authority. Liaison between the consultants and the sponsors of the study was maintained through a steering committee under the chairmanship of the Authority and on which the three airports and the Northern Region Economic Planning Council, who played an important role in initiating the preliminary discussions, were represented.

PROTECTION OF WRECKS ACT 1973

Area near Rye in the County of Sussex to be designated as a Restricted Area

The Secretary of State for Trade proposes to make an Order under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 designating as a restricted area all within 75 metres of the site near Rye in the County of Sussex where a vessel lies wrecked on the sea bed at latitude 50° 53′ 22″ North, longitude 00° 41′ 46″ East.

After the Order is made and comes into effect it will be an offence within this area to interfere with the wreck to carry out diving or salvage operations without the authority of a licence granted by the Secretary of State.

If any person or body wishes to make representations about the proposal to make this Order they should write to the Department of Trade, Marine Division, Branch 1B, 90/93 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP by 29 May 1974.

MFV 'Edwina' – Public inquiry into collision

The Department of Trade has ordered a public Formal Investigation into the incident at Bard Head off Bressay Island, Shetland, involving the mfv *Edwina* on 19 December 1973.

A further announcement will give the venue and date of the opening of the hearing, which will be held in Fleetwood.

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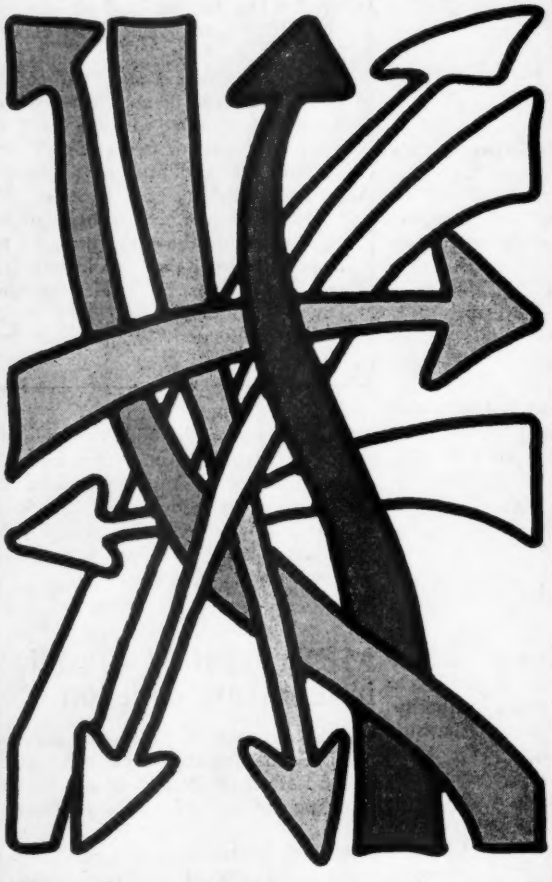

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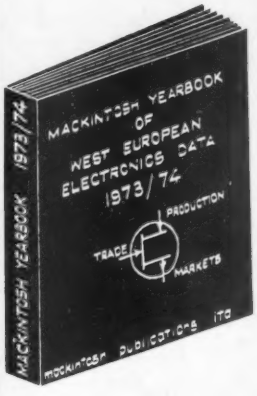

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New Merchant Shipping Bill

The Merchant Shipping Bill was published on 10 May. It is similar to the Merchant Shipping Bill which was before Parliament at Dissolution but has the following main changes:

(i) **Delegation of Surveys.** The provision in the previous Bill, to enable the delegation of certain statutory functions relating to the survey of passenger steamers and the survey and certification of the safety equipment of cargo ships, has been dropped. However, the Government has proposed, subject to consultation with the interests concerned, and to the making of the necessary statutory instruments, to go ahead with the remainder of the delegations originally proposed. These consultations are currently proceeding. A clause on fees related to the delegation of surveys has also been dropped.

(ii) **Safety of Submersible Apparatus.** A new part has been included which would give the Secretary of State for Trade powers to regulate safety of all forms of manned submersible vessels and apparatus. Although there are still relatively few submersibles operating from the UK, the numbers are growing and the Government considers it important that the necessary powers should be available.

(iii) **Repeal of certain Disciplinary Provisions.** The Bill contains provisions which will repeal sections 29 and 31 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1970, which prescribe criminal offences in respect of wilful disobedience to certain lawful commands and absence without leave at the time of sailing and increases the maximum monetary penalty in section 27, concerned with serious misconduct, from £200 to £400. Section 29-31 apply to merchant vessels but not to fishing vessels. There is also an amendment to the offence in section 30(c) which will limit its scope to combinations directed to disobeying lawful commands at sea or neglect of duty at sea, impeding the navigation of the ship or the progress of the voyage. Power is also being taken to increase the maximum monetary fine that may be specified in regulations made under section 34 from £10 to £20. The regulations specify offences in respect of which a fine may be imposed by the master and the present intention would be to make proposals for an increased penalty of £20 in respect of the offence of smoking in dangerous places on board vessels such as tankers. It is also proposed to set up two working groups under a steering group covering respectively the shipping and fishing industries to carry out a thorough review of the requirements for maintaining discipline on board ships, with special reference to the problems of drink and drugs.

The Bill, which is in five parts, is described below:

International Compensation Fund (Clauses 1-9)

Part I enables the United Kingdom to become a party to the International Conventions on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 and on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971. These two Conventions together will provide an interlocking system, in which liability for oil pollution damage caused by an identifiable ship or ships will be shared between shipowners and oil companies. Liability will rest primarily on the shipowner, but in three types of cases the International Fund will operate.

The three types of cases in which the Fund will compensate claimants are:

a where there is no liability upon the shipowner under the Civil Liability Convention;

b where shipowner and his guarantor fail to meet their liability (as the Civil Liability Convention brings in compulsory insurance, this case should seldom arise);

c where the cost of damage exceeds the shipowner's liability under the Civil Liability Convention, where that applies, or under the Convention on the Limitation of Liability of Owners of Seagoing Ships, 1957, if the flag State is a party to that Convention but not to the Civil Liability Convention (the incidence of such cases should diminish as States adhere to the latter Convention).

Claims up to nearly £15.7 million can be met. Contributions to the Fund will be made by those in contracting countries who receive crude oil and heavy fuel oil by sea. The provisions of the Fund Convention as to coming into force ensure that there shall not be less than 750 million tons of contributing oil.

Regulation of Tank Size in Oil Tankers (Clauses 10-13)

Part II of the Bill gives effect to Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil 1954, which have been incorporated in the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973. The Amendments regulate the arrangement and maximum size of cargo tanks in oil tankers so as to control the potential amount of spillage of oil in the event of a casualty. Certain maximum dimensions are prescribed for individual centre and wing tanks according to the size of the ship, but designers are otherwise given a free hand as to the number and siting of tanks, providing these will not result in the permitted 'hypothetical oil outflow' being exceeded in the event of a given assumed extent of damage.

The Amendments are aimed primarily at reducing the risk of pollution from the larger range of crude oil tankers, say upwards of 200,000 tons deadweight. But the Maritime Safety Committee of IMCO was concerned lest there should be a significant increase in the size of tanks in the smaller range of ships out of proportion to the size of the ships. The requirements therefore apply, as appropriate, to oil tankers of whatever size.

The requirements are expressed as applying to all oil tankers for which the building contract is placed on or after the Amendments come into force, and in addition to oil tankers in the following categories:

a all oil tankers delivered after 1 January 1977;

b all oil tankers delivered before that date provided the building contract is placed after 1 January 1974 or in the absence of such a contract construction is started after 30 June 1974. Tankers in existence at the time the Amendments were adopted are thus exempt from their requirements.

The Amendments are regarded as a major forward in the campaign against oil pollution of the sea and last year's International Conference passed a resolution urging governments to implement the Amendments in relation to tankers registered in their countries without waiting for them to come into force.

Protection of Trading and Shipping Interests (Clauses 14-15)

Part II of the Bill gives the Secretary of State certain powers to provide some protection to UK shipping interests, and UK trading interests, insofar as they are affected by measures involving shipping, against damaging regulation of shipping by foreign governments designed to promote carriage of cargo in ships of their flag, or to influence freight rates in the interests of their exporters.

Submersible Apparatus (Clauses 16-17)

Part IV empowers the Secretary of State to make regulations relating to safety in the operation of all submersible apparatus from conventional diving suits to sophisticated miniature submarines and any associated apparatus and support vessels. In addition to enabling general regulations relating to safety, health and welfare, it enables the establishment of registration and licensing systems. Schedule 5 describes some of the matters which may be provided for in regulations.

The Northern Lighthouse Board (Clause 18)

Amends the constitution of the Northern Lighthouse Board to provide for representation from the Isle of Man and the election by the Commissioners of up to four members with the appropriate expertise.

Repeal of Certain Disciplinary Provisions (Clause 19)

Amends sections 27 of the Merchant Shipping Act increasing the fine from £200 to £400, amends section 30(c) to restrict the offence to combinations directed to misconduct at sea, and amends section 34 increasing the amount of a fine which may be imposed for a 'disciplinary offence'. Section 29 and 31 are repealed and consequential amendments made to section 32 and Schedule 2, paragraph 2.

Parliament

Monday, 6 May

Patents in Europe

Mr. Edward Bishop asked when the proposals for a European patent system were expected to be completed; and what action was being taken to ensure that the United Kingdom Patent Office was maintained at full establishment in the meantime. He also wanted to know what recent discussions had taken place with the EEC regarding the future of the patents system.

In reply Mr. Shore said that the European Patent Office should open about 1977 on the latest estimates. The United Kingdom Patent Office was being kept up to strength and, for this purpose, a recruiting campaign had begun with a view to attracting some on permanent basis and some on period appointments. The Minister added that the EEC countries had agreed the previous week to a UK request for postponement of the conference for adoption of the Community Patent Convention to enable further discussion of outstanding problems and to allow Britain to review its policy towards this Convention.

Inflation accounting

Would the Secretary of State for Trade promote the study and promotion of techniques of inflation accounting was a question put by Mr. Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley).

Answering, Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'An independent Committee of Inquiry under Mr. Francis Sandilands is at present considering whether, and if so how, company accounts should allow for changes in costs and prices. The Committee was appointed under the last administration but shortly after taking Office my Rt. Hon. Friend invited Mr. Sandilands, on behalf of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and himself, to continue this inquiry.'

Aircraft noise

How soon was it expected, asked Mr. Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North), to authorise experiments, at least during good weather, of two segment approaches at Ringway Airport, which would reduce the nuisance from aircraft noise, particularly in areas such as Edgeley and Cheadle Heath.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The use of this technique, experimentally or otherwise, at any airport in this country must depend to a very large extent on technological and, most important, safety considerations. The possibilities, including the scope for noise abatement, are currently being examined in conjunction with the Civil Aviation Authority but the results cannot be known for some time yet.'

Mr. Bennett then wanted to know how soon it was hoped to introduce legislation to regulate noise from aircraft approaching and leaving airports in UK.

In response Mr. Davis said that power to regulate noise from aircraft already existed in Section 29 of the Civil Aviation Act 1971 and, for the newer types of aircraft, through the existing noise certification regulations. These powers, however, had to be exercised within the limits prescribed by technological and safety considerations.

Imported crude oil prices

What was the average cost per ton of imported crude oil, asked Mr. George Reid (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire).

Mr. Deakins said that the figures of average value per ton fob were published in Table 9, page 251, of *Trade and Industry*, 2 May 1974.

Steelworks closures

It was asked by Mr. Peter Morrison (City of Chester) if a general direction would be given to the British Steel Corporation not to proceed with their planned closures of steel works.

Mr. Benn said that he had already requested the chairman of the British Steel Corporation to suspend the proposed closures arising out of planned development, as agreed with the previous Government, until he had had an opportunity of reviewing them in consultation with the trade unions and other interests concerned.

Mr. Peter Rost (South-East Derbyshire) wanted to know whether the Secretary of State's review of the British Steel Corporation's restructuring programme included the closure of pig-iron furnace production at Stanton, Derbyshire.

Answering, Mr. Meacher explained that this closure was already under way when the present Government took Office. The Minister of State had discussed it with the trade union concerned, the British Steel Corporation and the Hon. Member. In the light of these discussions, the Secretary of State had agreed to the closure being completed.

EEC benefits to steel industry

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked 'What benefits have accrued to the steel industry in the UK in 1973 consequent upon UK membership of the European Communities?'

'The benefits of membership for the steel industry are,' replied Mr. Meacher, 'primarily in the direct access to the European market and thus the prospect of increased exports. It is not possible to quantify such benefits on the basis of a particular year. Additionally, the industry has access to Community grants and loans, eg the BSC has been able to negotiate loans of £29.4 million in 1973 at favourable interest rates.'

Crude steel production

Mr. Neil Kinnock (Bedwellty) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what was his estimate of total British crude steel production by 1974; and what percentage increase this represented on the 1971 figure.

In response, Mr. Meacher said: I estimate productive capacity in 1975 will be between 27 and 29 million tonnes. This represents an increase of between 5 and 9

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
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Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Ministers at the Department of Energy

Secretary of State for Energy: Eric Varley
Minister of State: Lord Balogh
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gavin Strang
Alexander Eadie

per cent on capacity in 1971. Actual production in 1971 was 24.2 million tonnes.'

Investment in NVT

The Secretary of State for Industry was asked by Mr. Bruce-Gardyne (South Angus) whether he would make it his policy to seek prior Parliamentary approval for any further investment of public funds in Norton-Villiers-Triumph or its successors which brought the totality of such investment to more than £5 million, following his current review of this matter.

'If the terms of Section 8(8) of the Industry Act 1972 require it,' replied Mr. Heffer, 'the authorisation of the House will be sought in respect of any assistance of the kind suggested by the Hon. Member.'

Inward and outward investment

Was the Secretary of State for Industry satisfied with the present level of inward investment into the UK? asked Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex).

Mr. Heffer said there was a need to increase our productive capacity especially in the Assisted Areas. Inward direct investment made a contribution to this, and he was keeping the matter under review.

Mr. Ioan L. Evans (Aberdare) wanted to know whether the Secretary of State for Industry was satisfied with the present level of outward investment from the UK.

'We are keeping a close watch on the position,' replied Mr. Heffer.

Small firms and cash flow

Mr. Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central) wanted to know what representations the Secretary of State for Industry had received from small firms on the problems of cash flow.

Responding, Mr. Heffer said: 'In recent weeks I have received very few representations from small firms experiencing financial difficulties; there has been no suggestion as far as my Department is aware, of a serious shortage of liquidity throughout the sector.'

Supplies of baler twine

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was asked by Mr. Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North) why farmers in the north west of England were still experiencing difficulty in buying baler twine; and whether he would take further steps to make more supplies available.

Mr. Meacher said that he had been asked to reply. Total supplies of twine were tight, because of material shortages, and the fuel emergency earlier in the year. Although the pattern of farmers' ordering might have created some local supply difficulties, the total available was expected to be enough for this year's harvest.

Concorde

Two Questions were raised on Concorde. Mr. Geoffrey Pattie (Chertsey and Walton) requested a statement on the future of the Concorde project, and Mr. Edward Bishop wanted to know what recent discussions had been held with the French on the future of Concorde.

In answer to both Questions, Mr. Benn said: 'The Government are pressing ahead with their review of all aspects of the future of Concorde. in the light of the many views put to us. Consultations with our French partners have continued during their election period.'

STOL and VTOL aircraft

Mr. Edward Bishop asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if, in assessing the market potential of short take-off and landing and vertical take-off and landing projects, he would assess the cost per year of non-productive flying due to air traffic congestion, the loss of earnings due to non-effective flying hours and the time and money lost through surface traffic congestion between airports and city centres; and if he had any estimate of the extent of this hidden cost.

'Assessment of alternative air transport systems normally include allowances for the time and cost of travel between airports and city centres,' replied Mr. Meacher, 'but the extent and cost of future air traffic congestion cannot at present be accurately assessed. For short-haul air travel, air traffic congestion and other relevant factors continue to be studied by my Department with the co-operation of industry, airlines and the Civil Aviation Authority.'

Mr. Bishop followed by asking if action would be taken to ensure that all the interests concerned in the development, marketing and use of short take-off and landing/vertical take-off and landing projects were consulted before producing a national programme for planned short take-off and landing/vertical take-off and landing development.

Mr. Meacher said that his Department had for several years taken the lead in promoting discussion and studies by the various interests concerned in short and vertical take-off and landing aircraft and their operations, including industry, airlines and Civil Aviation Authority. Present indications were that new transport systems based on these concepts were unlikely during the next 20 years or so, and attention had more recently been directed towards the possibilities for RTOL (reduced take-off and landing) which might enable otherwise conventional aircraft to operate from auxiliary runways and smaller airports.

Hard and soft wheat prices

Mr. James Scott-Hopkins (West Derbyshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what was the comparable price at UK port of entry of EEC and USA/Canadian hard and soft wheat for bread manufacture at the latest convenient date.

In reply Mr. Williams gave the following information: 'On 2 May the UK cif price of hard Canadian Western Red Spring wheat was £105.50 per ton, of hard United States Dark Northern Spring wheat £81 per ton, and of soft French milling wheat £65.50 per ton.

IMEG report

The Secretary of State for Energy was asked by Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Central Fife) what progress had been made in the implementation of the recommendations of the report by the International Management and Engineering Group of Britain Ltd., issued by the Departments of Trade and Industry in 1973; and what further steps were contemplated.

Mr. Eadie answered: 'Considerable progress has been made in implementing the recommendations and my Rt. Hon. Friend is reviewing what further action should be taken.'

NCB ancillaries

Mr. Stan Newens (Harlow) requested a list of the ancillary undertakings and enterprises previously owned by the National Coal Board which had been sold to private enterprise during 1972 and 1973.

The following information was given by Mr. Eadie: *Wholly owned activities*: Midland Brick Co. Ltd., Northern England Brick Co. Ltd. and Whittlesea Central Brick Co. Ltd.; *Partly owned activities:* Bradleys Concrete and Bradleys (Concrete) Ltd. and International Reservations Ltd.

Tuesday, 7 May

Textiles Order

Mr. Ronald Bray (Rossendale) wanted reassurance from the Secretary of State for Industry that he would give instructions to his Department that no Statutory Orders, such as 2124 (1973), would be made unless adequate consultations had taken place with industries or manufacturers affected by that Order.

Replying, Mr. Meacher said: 'Statutory Instrument No. 2124 of 1973 relates to the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations which, in accordance with our obligations under the Treaty of Accession, implement the EEC Directive concerning textile names. These Regulations will come into effect on 1 July 1975. My Department has carried out wide-ranging discussions with representatives of the textile and clothing industries which will be those most affected by the Regulations. The purpose of the discussions was, first, to consider whether the proposed UK legislation adequately reflected the EEC Directive and, secondly, following the publication of the Regulations, to interpret how the provisions affected individual products. Other industries which are only marginally affected, such as the footwear industry, have not yet been consulted but my Department is currently drafting guidelines for the benefit of all industries which might be required to indicate the fibre content of the textile parts of the goods they produce; I expect that these will be available approximately one year before the Regulations come fully into effect. Meanwhile, however, my Department is willing to discuss with manufacturing industries any aspects of the Regulations which may cause difficulties.'

Airlines' security

Mr. Arthur Lewis (Newnham, North-West) requested from the Secretary of State for Trade a statement on the private security firms employed by air lines for searching passengers' hand luggage which were paid for out of Government funds; and also asked how much of the current estimate of £1½ million had been paid to the latest stated date to the quoted companies.

'I have asked for an examination within my Department of the role of private security organisations employed by airlines in searching passengers and baggage at United Kingdom airports', replied Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Under the Protection of Aircraft Act the costs of anti-terrorist precautions by the airlines are reimbursed by the Government. In 1974/75 these costs are estimated to be £1½ million, of which nearly 90 per cent is expected to be for searching duties carried out by private organisations employed by over 60 airlines at nearly 20 airports.'

Parliament continued

Movements at Luton Airport

Information was requested by Mr. James Allason (Hemel Hempstead) on the numbers of commercial air passenger transport movements at Luton Airport in 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973, and the numbers of air positioning movements involved in this traffic.

Mr. Clinton Davis said that the figures for 1970-72 published in the Business Monitor and for 1973 to be published in due course by the Civil Aviation Authority were as follows:

	Commercial movements	
	Air transport	Empty charter positioning
1970	22,354	4,693
1971	27,923	4,661
1972	31,257	5,183
1973	30,734	5,898

Definitions of the terms air transport movement and empty charter positioning flights were contained in the Business Monitor. The figures for air transport movements might include some aircraft carrying freight only.

Sanitary towel prices

Dr. Michael Winstanley (Hazel Grove) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if she would look into the recent increases in the price of sanitary towels and take steps to prevent any further increase in the price of these articles.

Mr. Maclennan said he was examining urgently means of stabilising the shop prices of these and other essential items for the future.

Pneumoconiosis

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked the Secretary of State for Energy whether he would introduce legislation to provide working conditions that were conducive to the elimination of pneumoconiosis from mines and quarries, and to ensure compensation for all the widows and dependants of those who died from this disease.

'Work is well advanced,' said Mr. Eadie, 'on the preparation of new regulations under the Mines and Quarries Act 1954 designed to control the problem of respirable dust in coal mines which is the cause of pneumoconiosis. The industrial injuries scheme already provides a death benefit for the dependants of people who die from pneumoconiosis.'

EEC benefits for coalmining

Information on the extent to which miners' housing and environmental improvements were eligible for European Community loans and advances was requested by Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford).

Mr. Eadie said there was a limited availability of ECSC funds for very low interest loans for miners' housing. There was no specific scheme of financial aid for environmental improvements, but the coal industry was eligible for loans for its capital development programme.

Mr. Skeet then asked what European community benefits were or would be, specifically available to the coal mining industry in the UK in its development programme including the opening up of the Selby coal fields.

To this question Mr. Eadie said that it was expected that loans at preferential rates of interest would be available from the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Investment Bank. Loans might also be available for miners' housing.

Domestic coal prices

Mr. George Reid (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire) wanted to know the average retail price per hundredweight of domestic coal in Scotland, Wales and the various regions of England.

In response, Mr. Eade gave the following information:

Average retail prices for Group C house coal April 1974

NCB sales region	Pence per cwt.
Scotland	95
Northern	80
Yorkshire	85
Midlands	85
North Western (including North Wales)	88
South Wales	88
London and South of England	105
West of England	105

Source:
National Coal Board.

Wednesday, 8 May

Imported oil costs

Mr. Caerwyn Roderick (Brecon and Radnor) asked what was the estimated cost of importing oil at current prices over the next 12 months, compared with the past 12 months, if no restraint was placed on the import and consumption of oil.

Dr. Strang replied: 'The latest available estimate of the increase in the net cost of imported oil was contained in the Budget statement by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 26 March 1974. Comparing 1974 with 1973, the Chancellor stated that price increases would produce an addition of more than £2,000 million to the import bill for oil. This was on the basis that there would be no re-imposition of restraints on the import and consumption of oil.'

Oil exploration in Irish Sea Basin

What recent progress had been made in the preparations for exploratory drillings for oil in the East Irish Sea Basin, Mr. George Rodgers (Chorley) asked.

Dr. Strang said that further seismic survey work was carried out during 1973 and the drilling of three wells was planned for later this year.

Associated gas from oil drillings

Mr. Skeet inquired which North Sea oil fields were capable, following development, of making associated gas available to the British Gas Corporation, and what was the total volume of gas likely to be obtainable by the corporation outside the English basin.

In reply, Dr. Strang said that up-to-date estimates of the likely availability of gas associated with oil would be included in the Report to Parliament which his Rt. Hon. Friend hoped to present to the House before the Whitsun recess.

Oil and gas drillings in North West

Mr. Rodgers asked what recent progress had been made in the attempts to locate oil and gas at Pickmere. Cheshire and what other on-shore drillings were taking place or are contemplated in the North-West Region.

'An exploration well drilled at Pickmere was abandoned earlier this year', replied Dr. Strang. 'Another is now being drilled near Holme Chapel, Lancashire. Other wells may be drilled in the region under existing licences, subject to necessary clearances, including the grant of planning permission. No discoveries have yet been announced by the companies concerned.'

Supply and demand of natural gas

What evidence, asked Mr. Skeet, was there that overall demand for natural gas was beginning to exceed supply, and what further steps was it proposed to take to correct any adverse trend.

Dr. Strang said that the decision to give British Gas some relief from their statutory supply obligations was based on advice from the Corporation of very heavy demands for new and increased supplies of gas. There were no immedate proposals for further action but the position would be reviewed as necessary.

UK coal industry and the EEC

Mr. Skeet wanted to know what benefits had accrued to the coal industry in the UK in 1973 consequent upon UK membership of the European Communities. He also asked if the financial benefits that have accrued to British, German, French and Belgian coal mining industries during 1973 from membership of the European Communities would be compared.

Mr. Eadie said in reply that the NCB had become eligible to benefit from the following financial operations of the ECSC: readaptation grants for redundant and transferred mineworkers; grants for technical and social research; loans at favourable rates of interest for capital investment projects and miners' housing. The information was not available to compare the financial benefits for individual Member States in 1973.

Common energy policy for Europe

Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked what proposals had been made to the EEC for the basis of a common energy policy for Europe.

Mr. Varley replied: 'None. The Commission has circulated a document on a new strategy, which is intended to form the basis of a European energy policy. My Department is participating actively in a discussion of this document in Brussels.'

Overnight storage heating costs

Mr. Wyn Roberts (Conway) wanted to know whether the Secretary of State for Energy's estimate of price increases to domestic consumers, averaging about 30 per cent on electricity bills, reaching most of them from the beginning of August, would be affected by the fact that the charges for overnight storage heaters were due to rise by more than 70 per cent as from the beginning of May.

Responding, Mr. Eadie said: 'No. This estimated national average effect took account of the expected increase in off-peak and night rates. All domestic tariffs are likely to increase by about 0.3p per unit and, as I indicated in my reply to the Hon. Member

for Derbyshire South East on 1 April, large domestic consumers with a high proportion of off-peak or night use will have higher percentage increases. This is because they pay a lower average charge per unit than domestic consumers generally, the actual percentage increase depending largely on the actual amounts consumed at the different rates. For example, the bills of a consumer using 12,000 units a year of which 9,000 are at off-peak or night rates are expected to increase by about 50 per cent.'

Energy costs for industry

A request was made by Mr. George Reid (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire) for information on the comparative cost per therm to industrial users of coal, oil, natural gas and electricity at the latest available date using the East Midlands of England and Central Scotland as basing points.

Energy costs to the user could show wide variation, said Mr. Varley, depending on volume of consumption, terms of supply and the grade or quality of fuel used. The figures in the following table could be regarded as indicative only; individual cases could show considerable divergence from the single figure shown.

Fuel costs to industrial users 1973 — p/therm

	Central Scotland	East Midlands
Coal (1)	4.5	3.7
Fuel oil (2)	3.1	3.2
Gas (3)	4.2	3.6
Electricity (4)	21.1	23.3

NOTES

(1) Averages of coals supplied to industrial market in those areas. From 1 April 1974 figures are 5.2 (Central Scotland) and 4.5 (East Midlands) pence a therm.

(2) Estimates of typical prices of heavy fuel oil in Inner Zone (Central Scotland) and Outer Zone (East Midlands) on the basis of Table 100 of *UK Energy Statistics* 1973. Current figures (April 1974) would fall in the range 7¼ to 8¼ pence a therm.

(3) The figures are provisional and relate to average revenue (on a meters read basis) from industrial consumers at all consumption levels in the Scottish and East Midlands Region of British Gas Corporation. The figures cover all gas and reflect the mix of town and natural gas in the Regions concerned. Tariffs rose by an average of 7½ per cent on 1 January 1974.

(4) The figures are provisional and relate to average revenue from sales to industrial consumers by East Midlands and South of Scotland Electricity Boards.

Air Services Agreement with China

Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker (Cheltenham) asked what progress had been made with the air services agreement with the Republic of China, and when he expected the direct air services between Peking and London to commence.

Mr. Clinton Davis advised that an Air Service Agreement had been initialled in Peking last June between representatives of the Governments of the United Kingdom and China. We were ready to proceed to signature at any time. Air services between London and Peking could not begin before signature had taken place.

Exports and imports with EEC

Mr. Neil Marten (Banbury) requested information on the percentage of British exports taken in 1972 by (a) the original six members of the Common Market and (b) by Denmark and the Republic of Ireland; and what were the percentages for 1973.

In reply, Mr. Deakins gave the following figures: 22.9 and 7.3 per cent in 1972; 24.7 and 7.7 per cent in 1973.

Mr. Neil Marten also wanted to know what was now the current average tariff on industrial goods imported into the Common Market from Great Britain.

To this Mr. Deakins replied about 5 per cent.

Bread costs

Mr. Cledwyn Hughes (Anglesey) asked whether the additional 1p charged for a large loaf in Anglesey and other peripheral areas of the United Kingdom was wholly attributable to transport costs, or if other factors were involved.

'As I stated in my reply to the Hon. Member's question on 11 April and my subsequent letter of 25 April,' Mr. Maclennan replied, 'the additional charge for large loaves attributable to transport costs is ½p in parts of North and West Wales, Northern Scotland and North Devon and 1p in Northern Ireland. The actual selling price may in some cases reflect also the generally higher costs of retailing in remote areas.'

Regional assistance and wage levels

Mr. John Garrett (Norwich, South) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he had any intention of reviewing the criteria for regional assistance so as to give weight to low wage levels as a qualification for assistance.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'As I said on 29 April, in reply to a Question from my Hon. Friend the Member for Rhondda, it is the Government's intention to continue and develop the existing system of regional financial incentives which we inherited from our predecessors. The terms of the Local Employment Act 1972 and the Industry Act 1972 are wide enough to enable us to take account of low wage levels, along with all other relevant considerations, to the extent we think appropriate.'

Supply of tin plate

Mr. David Price (Eastleigh) wanted to know what steps were being taken to ensure that there would be a sufficient supply of tin-plate available to the British canning industry when this year's fruit and vegetable crops were harvested.

Mr. Meacher said that labour problems at BSC's Port Talbot works were currently affecting the production of hot rolled coil, the raw material for tin plate, and his Department, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was in close touch with the Corporation on the implications for the food industry.

Thursday, 9 May

BOTB missions and costs

Details were requested by Mr. Neil Kinnock (Bedwellty) of the total cost of the British Overseas Trade Board's Outward Mission Scheme in the last three years for which figures are available.

'The British Overseas Trade Board took over responsibility for the direction of the Outward Mission Scheme from the British National Export Council in Janaury 1972', replied Mr. Deakins. The cost of missions supported under the Scheme in the last three years had been:

1971/72	£450,000 (estimated)
1972/73	£321,923
1973/74	£527,406 (provisional)

Mr. Kinnock wanted to know how many missions using the Outward Mission Scheme visited South Africa, Japan, Australasia, the USA, Canada, Comecon and EEC countries, respectively, in each of the last three years for which figures were available; and how many had been accomplished or were planned in 1974 in each of these countries and trading areas. He also asked how many trade missions assisted by his Department visited South Africa, Japan, Ausralasia, the USA, Canada, Comecon and EEC countries, respectively, in 1972 and 1973; and how many had been accomplished or were planned in 1974 in these countries and trading areas.

In response, Mr. Deakins said that the number of missions supported under the Outward Mission Scheme which took place in the period 1.1.71 to 30.4.74 and visited South Africa, Japan, Australasia, the USA, Canada, Comecon and EEC countries were as shown below. The number of missions planned for the remainder of 1974 are also shown below.

	Nos. of officially supported missions which took place under the Outward Mission Scheme				Nos. of officially supported missions under the Outward Mission Scheme during the period:
	1971 (1)	1972	1973	1.1.74-30.4.74	1.5.74-31.12.74
South Africa	8	11	17	6	11
Japan	6	14	18	13	14
Australasia	12	16	19	8	13
USA	29	17	41	10	15
Canada		10	21	10	3
COMECON countries	3	12	12	2	15
EEC countries	11	8	3	3	1

(1) The 1971 figures relate to missions supported under the Outward Mission Scheme when it was administered by the British National Export Council.

Mr. Kinnock then asked what financial contributions the British Overseas Trade Board might make to the costs incurred by members of trade missions visiting South Africa, Japan, Australia, the USA, Canada, Bulgaria, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, West Germany and France.

Mr. Deakins said that the financial contributions available to participants in outward missions supported by the British Overseas Trade Board under its Outward Mission Scheme are:

Country	Contribution
	£
Federal Republic of Germany	50 (1)
France	50 (1)
Bulgaria	75
Czechoslovakia	75
German Democratic Republic	50
Romania	75
USSR	100
Canada: Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa	175
All destinations west of above	225
USA: Minneapolis, Kansas City, New Orleans, Miami and destinations east of a line through these towns	175
USA: All destinations west of the line given above	225
Republic of South Africa	300
Japan	400 (2)
Australia	450 (2)

(1) It is not customary to make any contribution towards the cost of business missions to Western European countries: the rates of contribution shown apply only to a very limited number of special missions organised to support particular export promotion projects.

(2) Members of outward missions visiting more than one country will normally qualify for the contribution for the farthest point in the journey. Missions lasting not less

than ten days to more than one country as shown below attract the following rate of contribution:

Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore	£450
(to qualify a visit to Japan must be included in the itinerary)	
Australia, New Zealand	£500

Further information was requested by Mr. Kinnock on what was the average per capita *cost of travel subsidies paid to members of trade association missions using his Department's facilities in order to attend overseas trade fairs in the last three years for which figures were available.*

'The purpose of the British Overseas Trade Board's Outward Mission Scheme', said Mr. Deakins, 'is to increase exports by encouraging British businessmen to visit overseas markets in order to explore and assess the prospects for their goods or services or to reinforce their marketing efforts. It is not a primary purpose of the Scheme to assist businessmen to visit overseas trade fairs. Some missions may be timed to coincide with an important trade fair; but records of such missions are not separately kept.

'In the financial years 1972/73 and 1973/74 the average *per capita* cost of travel subsidies paid to firms taking part in outward missions supported by the BOTB was £196 and £267 respectively. A similar figure for the financial year 1971/72 when the scheme was administered by the British National Export Council is not readily available.'

Trade missions to South Africa

Mr. Max Madden (Sowerby) wanted to know what financial support was given by Government to businessmen joining trade missions to South Africa sponsored by his Department; how many departmental trade missions had visited South Africa since June 1970; and what had been the total Government finance incurred.

Responding, Mr. Deakins said that each participant in a mission to South Africa supported under the BOTB's Outward Mission Scheme received £300 as a contribution towards his expenses. From 1 June 1970 to 31 December 1973, 41 missions had visited South Africa under the Outward Mission Scheme at a cost of £145,713. Seventeen missions were expected to visit South Africa during 1974 at an estimated cost of £81,600.

Information on how much public money had been spent in 1972 amd 1973 on subsidising trade missions to South Africa, was requested by Mr. Cyril Smith (Rochdale).

He was advised by Mr. Deakins that the cost of supporting trade missions visiting South Africa in 1972 and 1973 under the BOTB's Outward Mission Scheme had been £41,863 and £63,686, respectively.

Mr. Smith then wanted to know how many trade missions would receive subsidies to visit South Africa between June and December 1974.

Mr. Deakins stated that under the BOTB's Outward Mission Scheme nine trade missions are planned to visit South Africa between June and December 1974.

Balance of trade statistics

It was asked by Mr. Cranley Onslow (Woking) why statistics were not compiled of the balance of trade in goods on a balance of payments basis between the United Kingdom and individual countries overseas.

Replied Mr. Deakins: 'The adjustments needed to convert the trade figures published in the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom* to a balance of payments basis depend on various items of supplementary information as described on pages 62 *et seq* of the "United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1973". Much of this information is not readily available for individual countries and estimates on a balance of payments basis are consequently only practicable for broad geographical areas.'

Census of Distribution

Why had there been a delay in publishing the final results of the Census of Distribution for 1971? asked Mr. John Roper (Farnworth).

Mr. Deakins explained that the full results of the Census of Distribution for 1971 were later than expected because there had been greater difficulties than anticipated in obtaining satisfactory returns from firms and in reconciling these returns with the lists of shops obtained by field enumeration and direct from firms before the census had been taken. The final figures for shops in Great Britain should be available in June, and regional figures in the following month or so.

Exports to Italy

Mr. Brian Sedgemore (Luton, West) asked for details of quantity and value of the UK's principal exports to Italy, and how these were expected to be affected by Italian import controls.

In reply Mr. Deakins said: 'The total value of exports to Italy in 1973 was £386 million; detailed information by value and where appropriate by quantity is given in the December 1973 issue of *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*. I am assessing the proportion of our exports to Italy in respect of which import deposits will be required. At this stage I prefer not to hazard a guess as to the scheme's effect on our exports to Italy but would say that it is likely to have only a small impact on our overall trading position.'

Aid to shipbuilding

Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked what was the total amount of special Government aid given to the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry, apart from the grants available to all manufacturing industry under existing legislation, in the most recent year for which figures were available and what were the comparable figures in each of the previous ten years. He also wanted to know what was the total amount of grant made by the Department to the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry in each of the past 10 years; and if this aid could be expressed as a factor of the numbers employed in the industry with comparable figures for other representative manufacturing industries.

In reply Mr. Meacher said that special assistance given direct to the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry by way of loans, grants and purchases of shareholdings since 1965 was as set out in the table below. The figures did not include shipbuilders' relief or any assistance given under general measures of support for industry. No special assistance was given direct to shipbuilding companies in the two years before 1965/66.

£ million

Year	Grants	Loans	Share-holdings	Total
1965/66	—	1.0	0.5	1.5
1966/67	—	3.4	—	3.4
1967/68	0.1	3.5	—	3.6
1968/69	5.6	5.9	—	11.5
1969/70	6.5	10.6	3.0	20.1
1970/71	6.8	8.6	1.5	16.9
1971/72	12.1	3.1	4.0	19.2
1972/73	24.1	6.9	5.0	36.0
1973/74	22.1	15.6	—	37.7

He regretted that records of the grants paid under general measures of support for industry were not sufficiently detailed to provide information in the form requested.

Cheese prices and subsidies

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what calculations she had made of the average proportion of the weekly shopping budget which was devoted to White Stilton cheese, in the light of her decision to subsidise it. He also asked what calculations she had made of the average proportion of the weekly shopping budget which was devoted to purchase of Harvarti cheese, in the light of her decision to subsidise it, and whether she would give the equivalent figure for Elbo, Danbo, Tybo and St. Paulin cheese, respectively.

Mr. Maclennan said that about 2½ per cent of the expenditure on food of the typical family of two adults and two children was devoted to cheese. Statistics were not available for expenditure on individual varieties.

Mr. Latham then asked whether the proposed cheese subsidies would extend to exports of the home-produced cheese selected for subsidy.

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'No. The scheme requires the subsidy to be repaid on any cheese which is exported.'

Two further questions were put by Mr. Latham to the Secretary of State. What effect did she anticipate that her decision to subsidise the price of White Stilton cheese would have on the average weekly household budget, expressed as pence in the pound? What effect did she anticpate that her decision to subsidise the price of Elbo, Danbo, Harvarti, Tybo and St. Paulin cheeses would have on the average weekly budget, expressed as pence per week?

Replied Mr. Maclennan: 'The cheese subsidy will save about 5½p per week for a typical family of two adults and two children. Statistics are not available for expenditure on individual varieties of cheese.'

Then Mr. Latham asked what proportion of the £33 million she had allocated to cheese subsidies would be spent on each of the 19 varieties of cheese chosen for subsidy, expressed both as a percentage and as a monetary figure.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The estimated expenditure on the cheese subsidy in 1974/75 is £30 million. Statistics are not available for each of the varieties, but the following table shows the estimated costs, together with the proportion of total costs, for the main groups, based on estmates of consumption in 1974/75':

Type	Cost (£ million)	Proportion of total cost (per cent)
Cheddar	22.1	73.7
Dunlop, Cheshire, Caerphilly, Lancashire, Wensleydale, Leicester, Double Gloucester, Derby, White Stilton	5.5	18.3
Gouda, Edam, Elbo, Danbo, Harvarti, Samsoe, Maribo, Tybo, St. Paulin	2.4	8.0

BOTB News

Birmingham symposium on trade with the GDR

Brighter prospects for British companies seeking business in the German Democratic Republic were foreseen at a two-day symposium held at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 25 and 26 April under the title GDR Trade and Technology.

The symposium was specially aimed at exploring opportunities for licence trading with the GDR and contained two specialised lecture and discussion sessions on specific licence opportunities arising from GDR technology in the building and welding industries.

At the opening session on Anglo-GDR trade the President of the GDR Chamber of Foreign Trade, Rudolf Murgott, said that the Long-Term Co-operation Agreement signed in December by the two Governments 'increases the responsibility of the GDR foreign trade enterprises and other bodies to do more business with the UK'.

The opening session was also addressed by Mr. F. Zschernig, Director of the GDR Central Office for International Licence Trading, who informed delegates of the arrangement whereby GDR research and manufacturing enterprises were responsible for the marketing of their own licences. Copies of his talk can be obtained from the Birmingham Chamber's East Europe Department (tel. 021-454 6171, ext. 207).

First speaker at the symposium was Mr. J. S. Rooke, Chief Executive and Member of the British Overseas Trade Board, who drew attention to the Annex to the Co-operation Agreement, which lists industrial areas of special interest to both sides (see *Trade and Industry*, 28 March, page 559). As evidence of greater activity to promote Anglo-GDR trade, Mr. Rooke pointed to the symposium by the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association at the Leipzig Spring Fair, the first-ever British joint venture at Leipzig sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber, and the London Chamber's GDR Seminar held in February. Preparations were in hand for further joint ventures at next year's Leipzig Spring Fair.

There is already evidence that this expansion of activity and interest in the GDR is based on a real up-turn in business. UK exports to the GDR in the first three months of this year were worth almost £11 million to the GDR, compared with the total for the whole of last year of only £13.6 million. Our imports from the GDR are up by one-third over the same period last year, which means that the total level of trade exchanges between the two countries is twice as high in the first quarter of 1974 as in the first quarter of 1973.

UK delegation at Economic Commission for Europe seminar on East-West trade promotion

Mr. J. W. Buckley, a member of the British Overseas Trade Board, is heading a UK delegation at the second seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts, organised by the Economic Commission for Europe, which began on 13 May and continues until 17 May. Representatives from over 25 countries will be taking part at the seminar, which is being held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Two working groups are considering case studies on marketing between Eastern and Western Europe of consumer goods and industrial equipment, and a one-day panel discussion is being held on market research, distribution channels, promotion and selling.

David Liston, Educational Adviser to the BOTB, is attending the seminar, and two British representatives are presenting papers. They are Dr. Malcolm Hill from Loughborough University on the westbound exports of capital goods, and Dr. Dennis Strongitharm from the Polytechnic of Central London on the eastbound exports of heavy terrain fork-lift trucks.

Prospects for British exports in Belgium

Mr. J. N. Elam, First Secretary (Commercial) British Embassy in Brussels will address a meeting at the Confederation of British Industry headquarters on Thursday, 20 June 1974, beginning at 2.30 p.m., on the performance of British exports in Belgium and their prospects. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. W. J. Heygate, the member with particular responsibiiity for Belgium of the European Trade Committee, an area advisory group of the British Overseas Trade Board. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting may reserve a place by contacting Mr. N. D. Barclay or Miss J. Killick of the West European Advisory Department, CBI, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LP (tel. 01-930 6711).

Tasting British shellfish at the bi-annual Paris International Food Fair. From the BOTB film 'Shows that Sell'.

'Shows that Sell': new BOTB export promotion film

A new film, 'Shows that Sell', made for the Fairs and Promotions Branch of the British Overseas Trade Board, illustrates the main overseas promotional techniques offered to industry by the BOTB. It shows joint venture participation in a number of trade fairs; a major consumer goods promotion at a British Shopping Week in Stuttgart; a technical seminar; a major British industrial exhibition in Nigeria; and a mission of British businessmen and women to the United States. Its message is that effective promotion helps increase sales and profits.

Exporters at actual events staged abroad portray a variety of the ways whereby practical help and financial support are made available from the BOTB to win new business. The film shows both the behind-the-scenes build up and the day-by-day hard sell on the spot. It draws attention to the skill and expert knowledge available from Fairs and Promotions Branch of the Board, gained over many years at promotions throughout the world.

'Shows that Sell', a 16 mm film in colour that runs for 20 minutes, was made by World Wide Pictures Ltd. and the Central Office of Information. It is available on loan to exporters, trade associations, Chambers of Commerce or export clubs. Applications should be made to Publicity Unit, BOTB, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4, or to the nearest Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

ECGD addresses

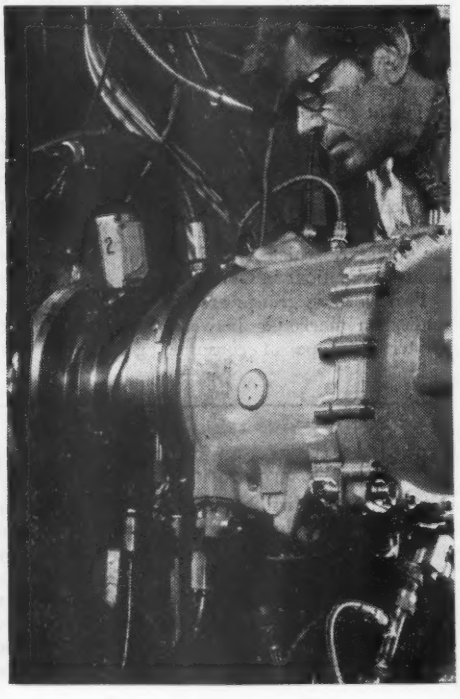
The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel. 01-606 6699). ECGD has 20 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom, and these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

Aerospace exports

Gulf Air has inaugurated a new 'Golden Falcon' service between London and the Arabian Gulf with two newly-acquired British Aircraft Corporation VC10 long-range jetliners. The airline has operated with leased VC10s for two years.

The 100th Westland Sea King helicopter nears completion, the eleventh of an order for 12 from India. Exports of the Sea King and its variant, Commando, have earned over £89 million.

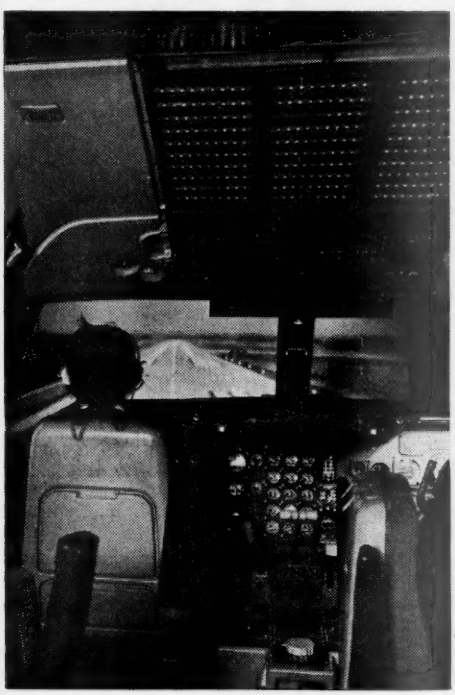
An aircraft constant speed drive and a.c. generator under test at Lucas Aerospace's Electrical Group factory at Netherton, Lancs. Lucas Aerospace exports to many parts of the world.

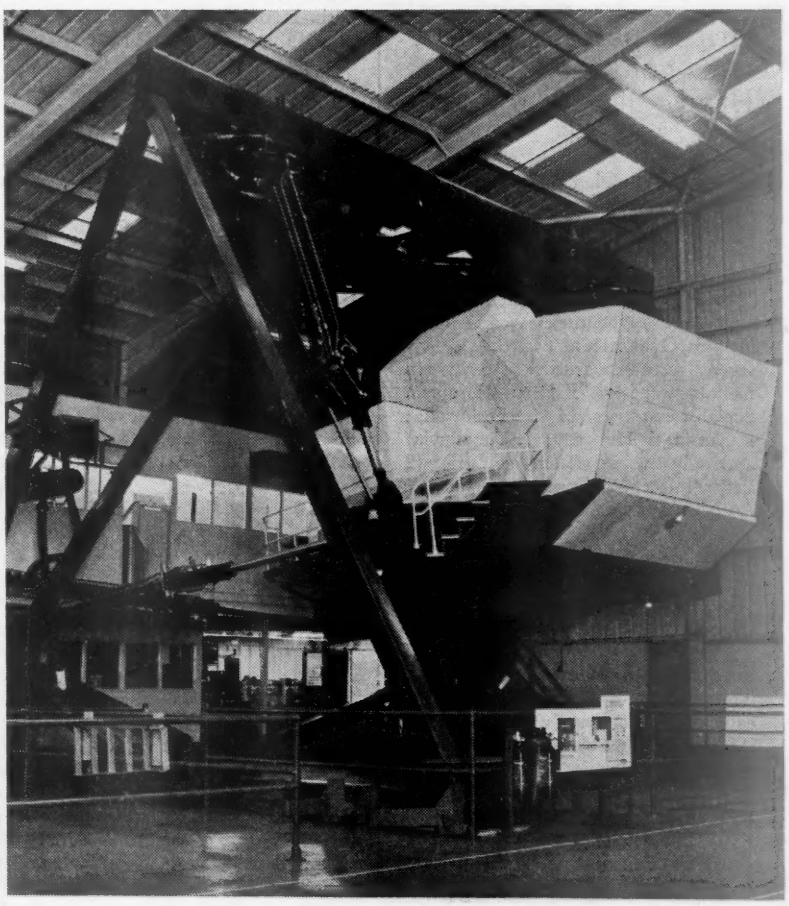


Britain's aerospace exports soared to nearly £520 million in 1973, over £100 million above the record level established only the previous year. The Society of British Aerospace companies reports that it looks as if the high level of overseas sales will be maintained this year.

Hawker Siddeley Trident in the livery of the Civil Aviation Administration of the People's Republic of China. Sales of 35 Tridents to China represent export contracts worth over £120 million.

A Lockheed TriStar flight simulator (right) and its flight deck (below), made by Redifon Flight Simulation Ltd., Crawley. A recent order for a Boeing 747 flight simulator for Singapore Airlines brought the company's export earnings for 15 months to £15 million. After winning the Queen's Award for export achievement in 1966, 1970 and 1973, the company has this year gained the award for technological innovation.





Exhibitions and Fairs

Effective British joint venture at Hamburg dental show

From Ilse Reuter, Commercial Section, British Consulate-General, Hamburg. Forty thousand visitors from 75 countries were recorded during the 19th International Dental Show in Hamburg from 23 to 28 April in conjunction with the 18th Congress of German Dentists, the International Congress of Dental Technicians and the German Congress for Further Education of Dental Assistants.

This show, which is the most important exhibition of its kind in the world and is held every three years in a different city, occupied seven halls of the Hamburg exhibition grounds which represent a net area of about 12,000 sq. m. Some 350 exhibitors from 17 countries showed a comprehensive range of dental equipment and supplies. The Federal Republic of Germany had the largest contingent but foreign exhibitors accounted for one-third of the total. Prominent amongst the other countries were Italy, Switzerland, Sweden and the USA. The two trade-days – at previous shows there was only one – at the beginning of the Fair were generally welcomed by the exhibitors as they allowed for more detailed discussions with the dealers although a good attendance of dealers was also recorded during the remaining four days of the show.

The United Kingdom was represented by 17 firms of which nine exhibited under a joint venture organised by the British Dental Trade Association in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, the remainder showing either independently or on the stands of their German representatives. The British exhibitors on the joint venture stand, whose products represented a good cross-section of this particular branch of industry, were unanimous in their opinion that it is important to show at this fair but, while some considered their presence vital from a point of view of meeting their overseas agents and buyers from all over the world with business resulting at a later stage, others placed the emphasis on hard selling.

The staff of Staident Ltd. were kept very busy demonstrating to interested audiences the advantages and effectiveness of their range and at the end of the Fair they found that their hard work had resulted in £15,000 worth of business. They are confident that repeat orders will follow rapidly. Bident Ltd. with their range of dental furniture and equipment reported tremendous interest in, above all, their ultrasonic scaler. Both firm orders (mainly from Holland, Spain, Brazil, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland) and inquiries were up by about 200 per cent over the last exhibition held in Munich in 1971. Dental Fillings Ltd. who were particularly successful in introducing as a new line 'RUWA finishing strips', which are specially recommended for use with composites, reported orders and inquiries up by 60 per cent. The Wright Dental Group were very satisfied with their participation which brought good business including one order for 500,000 artificial plastic teeth worth about £12,000. J. & S. Davis were very pleased with the interest shown in their Cryotherapy surgical unit as were The Virilium Co. Ltd. not only with the number of inquiries but also with an unprecedented number of orders above all for their chrome cobled and nickel chrome alloys and their aspiration equipment.

An encouraging number of inquiries were received by Nesor Products Ltd. The remaining two firms on the joint venture stand, Cottrell & Co. and The Diamond Precision Tools Ltd., also described their participation as having been worthwhile and, like the other firms in the joint venture, intend to be present at the next International Dental Show which will be held in three years' time in Dusseldorf.

Inquiries about the next show should be directed to the organisers, Verband der Deutschen Dentalindustrie e.V., 5 Cologne 1, Pipinstr. 16, or to Fairs and Promotion Branch of the British Overseas Trade Board.

A visitor to the British joint venture stand at Hamburg's dental show makes a particularly thorough inspection.

British perfumery firm wins gold medal at Brno

Yardley of London Ltd., the British perfume and cosmetics house, won a gold medal at the Brno Industrial Consumer Goods Trade Fair in Czechoslovakia (18 to 29 April).

Five hundred and eighty-four entries from 14 countries were entered for this Gold Medal award. Twenty-seven were awarded. Twenty-two medals went to Eastern European Socialist countries (17 Czechoslovakia; 3 Russia; 1 Hungary; 1 Yugoslavia) and only five to western countries (2 Federal Republic of Germany; 1 Austria; 1 Great Britain; 1 Switzerland).

Yardley was awarded the medal for high quality of product, packaging and presentation of the International Skin Care range.

This is the first time that Yardley of London Ltd. has shown products at an international fair in a Socialist country. Brno was chosen because it is an excellent shop window for the world. Both Dennis Mathews, managing director of Yardley of London Ltd., and Brian Edmunds, director of Yardley European Export Division, visited the Fair on the opening days.

British firms at Jamaican medical exhibition

From A. H. S. Linton, Commercial Section, British High Commission, Kingston, Jamaica: Nineteen British firms took part in a Medical Exhibition at the Sheraton Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica, to coincide with the joint Congress of the British Medical Association and the Medical Association of Jamaica from 22 to 26 April. In addition to the British exhibitors – under the sponsorship of the British Surgical Export Group in association with the British Overseas Trade Board – there were three other exhibitors from outside Jamaica and six local agents or manufacturers with their own stands, some representing British firms.

Since the Exhibition had been proposed two years ago the situation had changed drastically. The effect of rising oil prices on Jamaica's balance of payments had led to a stringent regime of import licensing, which was not yet operating smoothly. Despite the possibility that much of the Exhibition material would have to be re-exported, it was possible to make arrangements with the Trade

Administrator and the Collector of Customs to allow the issue of licences to any Exhibition material which could be sold. In the event this amounted to equipment valued at some £18,000, comprising the majority of the exhibits with the exception of those items which had been ordered by other countries or were being moved on to other exhibitions and displays in the area. Firm orders reported were not enormous, some £4,400 in value, but as a result of the interest shown it is definitely anticipated that further orders totalling £75,000 will be made in the near future, particularly for hospital equipment and surgical instruments.

Most exhibitors were extremely pleased with the position and layout of their stands and considered that Overseas Exhibition Services had done well for them. The layout in the hotel unfortunately put two or three exhibitors at a geographical disadvantage, since the bulk of business and the very great interest shown resulted mainly from those attending the Congress having to pass most of the stands whenever they went in or out of the main Conference area. Some exhibitors logged as many as 600 visitors, mainly serious inquiries.

Perhaps one disappointing aspect was the relatively small turnout of Jamaican doctors, particularly general practitioners who might have been the main target of pharmaceutical firms. On the other hand there was good attendance (and inquiries) by those mainly responsible for buying for hospitals and large medical centres in the island. There was also considerable interest shown by the numerous British doctors attending the Congress and, since the Congress immediately followed a Commonwealth Medical Conference, a number of Australian, Canadian, African and Caribbean doctors were present, who showed considerable interest. Large orders are forecast for their own countries.

High quality inquiries

Most exhibitors considered that participation in the Exhibition had proved well worthwhile, that the volume and quality of interest and inquiries had been high and that the Exhibition as a whole could be counted a success, despite the poor auguries a few months earlier. Among those who reaped direct commercial benefit were Chas. F. Thackray Ltd.; Down Bros. & Mayer & Phelps Ltd; Eschmann Bros. & Walsh Ltd.; and Hoskins Ltd. Ethicon Ltd., GEC Medical Export Dept., and P. K. Morgan Ltd. foresaw considerable orders resulting. Other firms participating were:

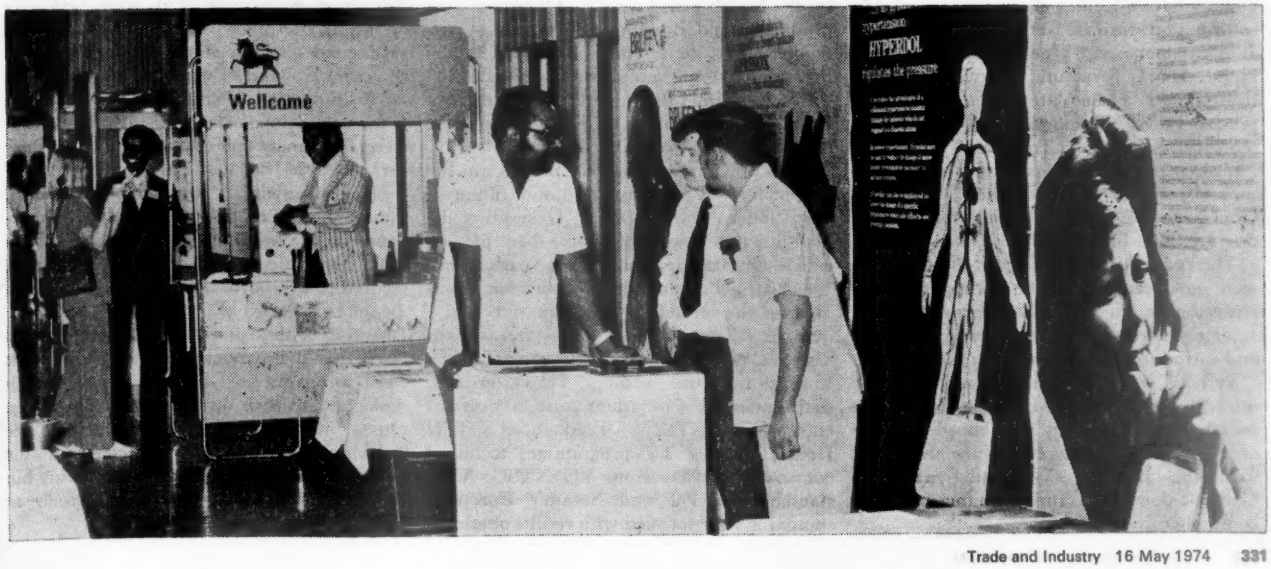
Beecham Research International
Boots
Ciba Laboratories (UK)
Geigy Pharmaceuticals (UK)
ICI Pharmaceuticals Division
E. R. Squibb & Sons
Bencard
The Wellcome Foundation
John Dickinson & Co. Ltd.
Glaxo Holdings Ltd.
May & Baker Ltd.
William R. Warner & Co. Ltd.

Traditional links between British exporters and Jamaican doctors and hospitals have existed for some time, but considerable effort is needed to maintain these against growing interest of exporters from competitor countries. The number of exhibitors, growing steadily during the run-up period, together with the effort put into the Exhibition undoubtedly reinforced existing ties and should help maintain Britain's share of this continuing market.

Most of the goods exhibited are not suitable for local manufacture, but in some instances where, for example, pharmaceuticals could be locally manufactured, filled or packaged, preliminary consideration of such operations was initiated and local contacts investigated; an examination of the scope and feasibility of such operations will continue to be needed as the Jamaican Government proceeds with its policy for rationalising and reducing the cost of its drug importation, manufacture and distribution system.

Timely recognition of the efforts of participating firms was provided by the announcement at the start of the Exhibition of the Queen's Award to Industry to Boots, May & Baker and Ciba-Geigy (the last two, however, in unrelated fields).

Scenes during the recent medical exhibition in Kingston, Jamaica. Picture on the right shows (left to right) : a representative of Hoskins Ltd. with the British High Commissioner, Mr. John Hennings, and the Minister of Health and Environmental Control, the Hon. Dr. Kenneth McNeill. Picture below shows the Boots Company stand with Wellcome in background.



Finnish Minister welcomes British joint venture stand

From J. V. Tuukkanan (Commercial Officer), British Embassy, Helsinki. Eight companies, members of the British Building Materials Export Group, took part with the British Overseas Trade Board in a joint venture at the Second Helsinki International Building Fair. This took place at the Helsinki exhibition ground from 23-28 April and was opened by Heikki Tuominen, Minister of the Interior. It was particularly pleasing that Mr. Tuominen, on behalf of the Finnish Government, specifically welcomed official British participation in the form of a national stand. Britain was the only country with a representative stand.

Reflecting the importance of the Finnish building industry (which represents one-fifth of Finland's GNP), nearly 400 companies took part in the exhibition. About half the exhibitors were Finnish. Products from 20 foreign countries were displayed, including those of 26 British companies.

The fair was open to trade visitors only during the first three days. Sixty-eight thousand people visited the exhibition, of which 44,000 were businessmen with trade cards, 7,000 special invitees, and 17,000 general public. The British Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Martin Berthoud, visited the Fair.

The British joint venture stand included BIP Reinforced Products Ltd. who showed Filon glass fibre sheetings. The British Screw Company had a large display of fasteners for roofing and cladding and the Chemical Building Products Ltd. included a wide range of concrete additives, anchoring products and resin flooring systems. Conex Sanbra, who already have a leading share of the market in compression fittings, introduced their new sales catalogue and a new fitting for plastic pipes. DTH Structural Services demonstrated their 'Twinaplate' system for making pre-fabricated buiding elements, particularly roof trusses. Stanley Tools and Storeys of Lancaster, both of whom have Finnish subsidiary companies, showed hand tools and vinyl wall coverings respectively. In the outside area was British Hoist & Crane Co. Ltd.

The companies in the British joint venture were no strangers to the Finnish market. Nevertheless they found the fair a useful vehicle to strengthen old customer relations, and introduce new products.

Perhaps the only criticism was that the interval between these Building Fairs (four years) is too long. But it is hoped that the organisers will in future combine this event with the Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Fair, thus creating a more comprehensive exhibition.

Analytica 74 – 'one of the best events of its kind'

From N. U. Rothnie, Commercial Section, British Consulate, Munich. Twelve British firms who participated on a joint venture stand organised by the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers Association (SIMA) in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, were well pleased by their reception at the Fourth International Trade Exhibition of Bio-chemical and Instrumentation Analysis, which took place in Munich from 22 to 26 April. Analytica 74, as it is known for short, had almost doubled in size since 1972 emphasising the growing importance of bio-chemical analysis in such diverse fields as the food, pharmaceuticals and petro-chemicals industries as well as ecology and pure and applied research. Altogether 314 firms from 17 countries displayed a vast range of equipment from electron microscopes to small bottles of packing materials (worth many thousands of pounds) for liquid chromatographs. Fourteen thousand visitors from most parts of the world attended and, as the general public were excluded, this gives a good idea of the importance attached to this exhibition by the bio-chemical analysis world.

As always, the amount of direct business taken off the stands at specialised trade fairs is minimal and participants normally equate success and failure by the number of inquiries received. On this basis, the British joint venture stand did very well indeed. Much interest was shown in the fully automated bio-chemical blood analyser shown by the Medical Engineering Division of Vickers Ltd. and representatives of the firm reported inquiries from many parts of the world. Reeve, Angel and Co. Ltd. also found themselves with plenty to do, in dealing with the many inquiries for their high performance liquid chromatograph packing materials, which are said to be qualitatively better than any similar product at present being offered on the world market. Heartening proof that Government-sponsored research and private enterprise can work together successfully was provided by Precision Devices and Systems (UK) Ltd., who were showing some very sophisticated instruments for measurement of various bacterial parameters, velocity measurement of liquids, and gases by laser correlation techniques and combined photo multipliers and optical systems. Much of this equipment was developed in conjunction with NRDC and the Royal Radar Establishment at Malvern and the managing director of Precision Devices expressed himself extremely pleased with the number and type of inquiry received. There seems to be general agreement that the Munich exhibition is one of the best events of its kind and truly international in flavour. There are many opportunities for overseas trading by British manufacturers of automated bio-chemical instrumentation and some surprise was expressed that the joint venture contingent was not larger in view of the importance of the event. This however may change when the next Analytica takes place in two years' time in Munich from 27 to 31 April 1976.

Britons sparkle at Cannes MIP-TV

From the British Consulate-General, Marseilles. Held at the Palais des Festivals, Cannes from 18 to 23 April, the 10th International Television Programme Market attracted some 370 exhibitors from 68 countries. Of the British delegation, 33 TV programme producing and distributing companies participated in a joint venture organised by the British Overseas Trade Board in collaboration with the Film Production Association of Great Britain. Other British firms showed independently throughout the Palais.

As in previous years, Great Britain was the biggest foreign participating nation immediately followed by France. Generally, the British exhibitors were more than pleased with their participation at this year's event. The British Broadcasting Corporation attending for the second year running, received a number of promising inquiries from Scandinavia, Western Europe and some Eastern European States. Thames Television Ltd. sold a number of programmes to 20 overseas enterprises. UTITN Productions (ITN House) offering TV programmes technical conversion services from 525 NTSC – USA standard – to Pal and Secam's European standards were satisfied with results obtained. Contemporary Films Ltd. appearing for the fourth time made contact and sold documentaries and feature films to firms in Western Germany, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Holland. Trident International Television Enterprises Ltd. were very successful in as much as export orders were negotiated on their stand with buyers from Sweden, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Western Germany. Global Television Services Ltd. were extremely pleased and found their presence at MIP-TV essential, having secured business for their TV serials, documentaries, plays and musical productions. Lecky Enterprises Ltd., a small but active company from Belfast, specialising in children's programmes, secured firm export orders from companies in Denmark, Norway, Cyprus and Malaysia. Directors of the company were interested to learn that a great majority of foreign firms were prepared to translate the English dialogue into their own respective languages. On a more modest scale Richard Price Television Associates Ltd. expected to do the same amount of business as in past years but thought, nevertheless, that their presence at MIP-TV was essential.

Export Business

£2.25 million machine tool export deal with South Africa

Machine tool export orders worth around £2.25 million have been tied-up in South Africa by Kearney & Trecker Marwin Ltd., Brighton, Sussex. They include what is believed to be the biggest-ever order for a single South African automobile plant.

It amounts to almost £1.75 million and is destined for Motor Assemblies Ltd., Natal. Forty-five specially designed machines plus two numerically controlled machines and ancillary equipment will go to make a complete engine machining line. The NC machines will be the first of their type in South Africa and without their employment, the capital investment would have been nearly doubled.

The line will provide Motor Assemblies with the facility to machine three different types of engine blocks and bearing caps for Japanese, Swedish and French cars. It is understood that the manufacture of three separate engines on one line is unique in South Africa and probably the world.

This is the second major contract which KTM has gained from Motor Assemblies. In 1971 the company laid down a 46-machine line – worth about £1.6 million at today's prices – for the complete machining of blocks, heads and caps for Toyota engines used in the Mark I and Mark II vehicles.

The production capacity of the new line will be 24,000 engines per annum working on a single shift. By designing the single line to build three types of engines, it is estimated that a capital saving of £1.2 million has been achieved while operating savings, projected over 10 years, are estimated at £1.4 million. It is planned to start producing the Corolla engine in March 1975, the Renault engine following in August and the Volvo engine by the end of 1975. Motor Assemblies state that without rationalisation the new line will afford, it would not be economically attractive to produce these engines in South Africa.

Two other orders from the motor industry make up the balance of KTM's £2.25 million package.

From Leyland Motor Corporation of South Africa, the company has secured a design and build contract worth £387,000. It involves 12 machines and is being supplied as part of Leyland SA's £1.3 million expansion programme in their Cape Province plant.

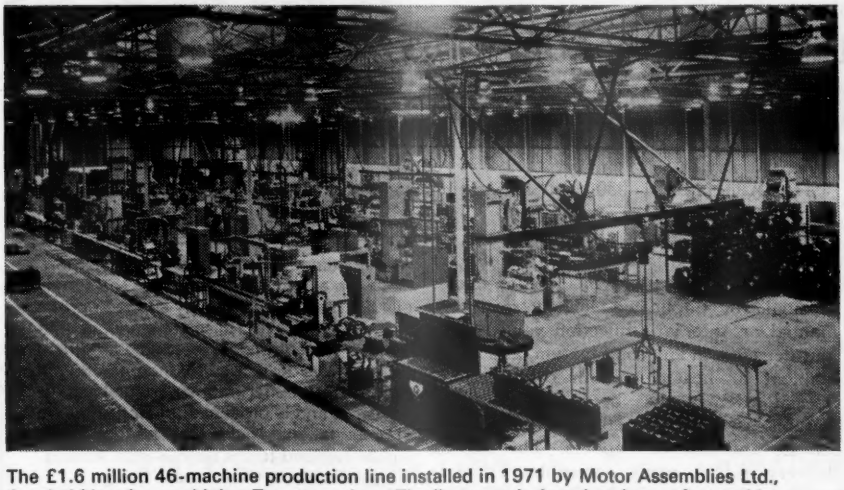
Ford South Africa are taking two of KTM's 1500 series numerically controlled machining centres at a cost of £120,000.

Delivery on all three of KTM's contracts is scheduled for this year and the first quarter of 1975.

South African and Malayan orders

Orders worth £150,000 for cable-covering machinery have been placed by BICC with Francis Shaw & Co., engineers to the rubber and plastics industries, for shipment to South Africa and Malaya.

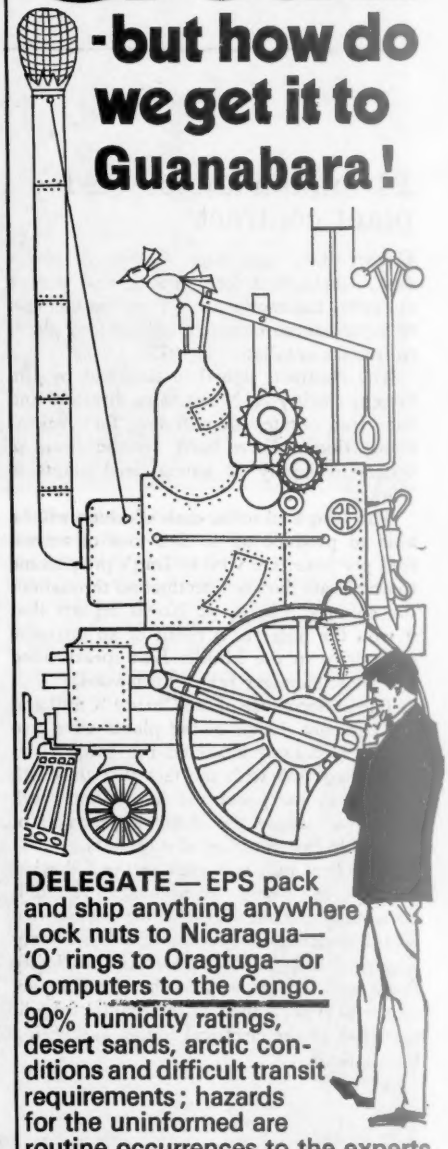
They include a horizontal continuous vulcanising line for BICC's South African company – Scottish Cables – which will be used for elastomeric insulated flexible cable. Shaw's are also supplying a 4½ inch sheathing line and a high-speed telephone cable insulating line to Malayan Cables.



The £1.6 million 46-machine production line installed in 1971 by Motor Assemblies Ltd., South Africa, for machining Toyota engines. The line was designed and manufactured by Kearney & Trecker Marwin Ltd., Brighton.

Great!

-but how do we get it to Guanabara!



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£1 million animal feed plant contract

Christy Bros. subsidiary, Christy & Norris Ltd., Chelmsford feed milling and process engineer, has received a £1 million contract to supply seven complete animal feed plants to Iraq for installation in 1975.

The contract, signed in Baghdad by Jim Green, Christy & Norris sales director, and the Iraq State Department for Animal Production, follows hard on the heels of orders to supply 12 animal feed plants to Turkey.

The Iraq feed mills, each of which will be able to produce up to five tons of animal feed per hour, are vital to Iraq's programme to accelerate livestock production throughout the country. Christy & Norris reports that it won the order as a result of an intensive sales drive in the Middle East spearheaded by export manager Julian Littlewood.

The performance of the Christy X mill and the compact design of the plants were two factors that most attracted the Iraqis, it is stated, together with the fact that they will be able to carry out the installation work themselves under the direct supervision of Christy & Norris technical specialists.

Each feed mill will include the following Christy & Norris equipment: X mill, horizontal mixer, Readiscrew conveyors, Readilift elevators, Speedigate slides. Christy Electrical Ltd., another subsidiary of Christy Bros., will be responsible for the complex electrical systems used in the plants and will supervise all the electrical supply and wiring installations.

Parsnips for Swedes

A recent consignment handled by Frigoscandia's temperature-controlled transport service was 18 tons of parsnips for Sweden. Destined for a Swedish food-processing company in Helsingborg, the parsnips, from farms in the King's Lynn area, required a closely-controlled temperature of 3°C to arrive in top condition.

The exporter was L. Barber (London) Ltd. of London Fruit Exchange which specialises in grading produce for quality and size to conform to European standards. Frigoscandia has a transport depot at King's Lynn, based at its 3.6 million cubic feet cold store and was conveniently situated to handle the consignment.

Loading a consignment of parsnips for Sweden at Frigoscandia's King's Lynn depot.

Magnet makers attract massive order

Magnets worth almost £100,000 for use in eddy current damping devices are to be supplied to a German electronics firm by Watson, Saville & Co. Ltd., a member of the Neepsend Group.

One order for £56,000 has already been received by the Sheffield firm in the face of fiercely competitive quotations from Japanese and American companies, it is reported. And the conclusion of formalities will bring a further order for £41,000 within three months.

This is the largest single export order ever received for permanent magnets by Watson, Saville & Co. Ltd.

Director and general manager of the company, Trevor Frost, who negotiated the contracts in Germany, claims success from the personal touch: 'We did not have to undercut our competitors. We received the order on two counts in my opinion: first, we have a very successful record of service with the German company already; second, they like to deal with someone who can make decisions on the spot.'

APV-Paramount Ltd. of Crawley, Sussex, has been awarded a contract for the supply of 16 furnace coil assembly supports produced in Paralloy N5OW. These are manufactured from 15 ft. centrifugally cast tube lengths. The material was developed for incorporation in plants which suffer from severe fuel ash corrosion and is produced under licence from the International Nickel Co. The tube supports will be shipped to the Netherlands Antilles for installation in the furnaces being constructed by Ernst Kirchner for Lago Oil at Aruba.

China orders new British instruments

Applied Research Laboratories Ltd. of Luton has received a major order from Machimpex, the China Machinery Import and Export Corporation, for seven Gel Permeation Chromatographs.

The total value of the order, which includes nearly 100 ARgeL gel permeation columns and many accessories, is in the region of £150,000.

This success follows ARL's participation in the British Industrial Technology Exhibition in Peking in March last year. An N900 X-ray fluorescence analyser was sold at the exhibition and ARL hopes to win a lot more export business for British analytical instrument systems in the People's Republic of China.

The gel permeation equipment, which is the subject of the present order, was first introduced by ARL in 1972 and is intended for applications involving the measurement and distribution of elements of relatively high molecular weight.

The ARL Model 950 Gel Permeation Chromatograph is a wide-range, high-performance instrument designed on a modular format with a large choice of components. Salient features include the choice of single or duplicated solvent reservoirs, manual or automatic injection valve, up to four detectors in any combination, and either ambient or heated column compartment. Special attention has been paid to safety features, such as the effective isolation of solvent and solvent vapours. The solvent delivery unit is easily accessible. There is ample work space and provision is made for a flat bed recorder.

Core and blow moulding machines help build Moskvitch cars

Stone Wallwork Ltd. has signed two contracts with V/O Metallurgimport, Moscow, to a total value of £781,000 for the supply of a variety of foundry core and mould blowing machines for the production of cores and moulds for components of the Moskvitch car. All the machines are fully automatic in operation. The contracts include associated tooling and testing in the UK before dispatch.

The original inquiries were received during last autumn's 'Interlitmash' Exhibition in Moscow and Stone Wallwork believes that this business is a direct result of its participation.

These contracts follow Stone Wallwork's first major contract with the USSR value £900,000 which was signed in Moscow last October and is for core and mould blowing machines with tooling for the production of stainless steel valve bodies. Stone Wallwork is a member of Stone Platt Industries Ltd.

The Fairey Marine Group has handed over the first two of seven police patrol boats built for the State of Qatar. Senior representatives of the Government of the Arabian Gulf State attended the acceptance ceremony at the company's boatyard at Hamble. Seen here inspecting one of the Fairey 'Spear Class' police patrol boats (from left to right) Captain Issa Hassan Al Hail (Assistant Superintendent of the Qatar Police), Superintendent D. Fitzpatrick (Head of the Marine Division of the Qatar Police), Sheik Ahmed Saif Al Thani (Qatar Ambassador in Great Britain) and Mr. Barry Bawtree (military sales manager of Fairey Marine Ltd.).

South African millers modernise with British machinery

Thomas Robinson & Son Ltd., flourmilling machinery engineer of Rochdale, has won a further substantial contract for the South African milling market.

Valued in excess of £200,000 this order calls for the supply and installation of milling machinery to modernise and increase capacity in the flourmilling plant of Sasko Ltd. at Durban.

Association with the Sasko group goes back many years: the Rochdale company has supplied equipment for many of its mills throughout the Republic of South Africa.

Designed and equipped by Robinson, the Durban mill was put into operation in 1952 and was originally capable of milling 100 tons of wheat every 24 hours. With the increase in flour sales it became necessary to raise the milling capacity of the mill and Sasko turned again to Robinson which, in 1966, installed the most modern equipment available at that time, including pneumatic conveying of mill stocks, with the result that the original capacity was almost doubled by the addition of a separate milling unit located in the original building.

The continuing success of this mill now calls for further expansion and Robinson has again been entrusted with the work.

Mr. P. A. Pierce, purchasing manager for Power Gas-Harris (second from left) hands over an official export contract for Gyrolok twin ferrule tube fittings and instrument valves to Arthur Perry, sales manager of Hoke International Ltd., at a recent meeting in London. Also present are Mr. R. H. Marriott (far left) senior buyer for Power Gas-Harris, and Tony Harris (far right) sales engineer for Hoke International. The Hoke equipment, valued at approximately £50,000 will be used in the Adma offshore oilfield development in Abu Dhabi, where Power Gas-Harris are the management engineers for Abu Dhabi Marine Areas Ltd.

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Missions and Tours

'Biggest ever food and drink mission' for the Far East

The vanguard of a food and drink selling mission, comprising 51 members, left Heathrow for Tokyo on 5 May. When finally assembling in Tokyo the mission will total 72 people, representing 49 companies. It is believed to be the largest group from British food companies ever to visit the Far East.

Sponsored by the British Food Export Council, in conjunction with the Japan and SE Asia Food and Drink Export Association the mission is officially approved by the British Overseas Trade Board, and has taken place annually since 1968. Mr. Norman Wood, a director of Associated British Foods Limited and a member of the BFEC Executive Committee, will lead the mission as he has done since its inception. The programme will involve visits to Hong Kong and Japan where the main aim is to collect more orders and increase sales.

In Tokyo, the mission's visit will coincide with the first food exhibition to be held in the British Export Marketing Centre, where from 13 to 20 May, 28 companies will be participating and showing many food and drink products new to the Japanese market. In Hong Kong, the mission will undertake a preview sample show, with the co-operation of the British Trade Commission, in preparation for a full scale exhibition in 1975.

In 1973, total British exports to Japan rose 60 per cent to £273 million, plus invisibles. Since 1968, all food and drink exports to Japan have risen from £8.9 million to £31.1 million in 1973. Apart from Scotch whisky, the Japanese have so enthusiastically adopted another British drinking habit, black tea, that the UK share of the imported black tea market in Japan is now nearly 60 per cent, far ahead of such producing countries as Sri Lanka (27 per cent) and India (12 per cent).

Drive for Middle East exports

A 'hard-sell' mission to the Gulf States, a three-day export conference and a series of business forums are among activities planned by the London Chamber of Commerce in a new drive to promote exports to the Middle East.

Duncan Nowson, head of the Chamber's International Division, accompanied by David Gray of the Division's Middle East Section, will visit the Middle East in May to investigate commercial opportunities, and to prepare for the Chamber's sales mission, due to take place in late autumn.

David Gray says: 'The recent dramatic increase in oil revenues has made the Middle East an exciting market for a wide range of British exports. We aim first to show the businessman the great potential of the area, and then to help him with the practical problems of marketing his product or service.

'Our export conference, to be held at the beginning of June at Farnham Castle in Surrey, will examine every aspect of exporting to Iran, the Gulf States, and Saudi Arabia. The forums, on the other hand, each concentrate on one specific country. The first three are on Sudan, Qatar and Oman.'

Inquiries about these activities should be directed to Mr. Gray at the London Chamber of Commerce (tel: 01-248 4444).

Pye Telecommunications Ltd. are going to mount a display of Pye Group products on a fully equipped 80 m (260 ft.) Rhine liner which they will sail the length of the Rhine over a 14-day period, spending eight days docked in major business centres in Holland, Germany, France and Switzerland. Pye Telecommunications' distributors in Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg will be co-operating in arranging for existing local customers and key potential users to visit the floating exhibition. There will be a team from the Cambridge headquarters of Pye and many Pye Group companies will be displaying their equipment on board. The liner selected is the *Rex Rheni*, a new ship which will be on its maiden voyage. Picture shows Ian Dalgleish (left), general manager, and Nigel Ridler, sales promotion manager, going over the detailed planning of the exhibition.

Trade mission to Hungary

The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a trade mission to Hungary from 31 August to 7 September. The British Overseas Trade Board will support this on mission terms, if there is sufficient response from British industry.

The British Embassy in Budapest has advised the BOTB that, as regards products, much attention continues to be given to the automotive industry (component production), the textile industry reconstruction programme (2nd phase beginning in 1976), electrics and electronics, the chemical industry (pesticides and synthetic fibres), vacuum engineering, machine tool production and light industry. In addition airport facilities are to be modernised and pollution control is very much to the fore.

Interested firms should apply for further details to: The Secretary, City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce, Mitre House, 177 Regent Street, London W1R 8DJ.

Trade missioners from forty countries

Fifty-seven missioners from 40 countries will be coming to Communications 74 (4-7 June, Metropole Convention Centre, Brighton) under the British Overseas Trade Board's Inward Mission Scheme.

The missions cover the four main areas of radio and data communication which are reflected in the themes of the four days of the Exhibition and Conference: Data Communications, Fixed Radio, Mobile Radio and Defence Communications. A fifth mission is for journalists from eight countries. There is also a mission from NATO-SHAPE-NICSMA.

Countries represented include 13 West European nations, four from East Europe, Russia, North and South Africa, South America, the Middle East, Malaysia and Australasia.

Host companies include Marconi, Racal, Redifon, Ferranti, Plessey, Chloride Alcad, ITT Creed, Sperry, Muirhead, Motorola and STC.

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 924/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 1061/69 specifying methods of analysis for the implementation of Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L111, 24 April 1974)

Wines. Regulation (EEC) 925/74 making a fourth amendment to Regulation (EEC) 2005/70 on the classification of vine varieties. (*Official Journal* L111, 24 April 1974)

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 1028/74 temporarily suspending the issue of import licences and advance fixing certificates for beef and veal. (*Official Journal* L117, 30 April 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1062/74 suspending the special import arrangements for calves and young bovine animals intended for fattening. (*Official Journal* L119, 1 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1063/74 suspending the special import arrangements for frozen meat intended for the manufacture of certain preserved foods. (*Official Journal* L119, 1 May 1974)

Eggs and poultrymeat. Regulation (EEC) 1030/74 amending the list of egg and poultrymeat products eligible for the advance fixing of export refunds. (*Official Journal* L117, 30 April 1974)

TARIFF QUOTAS – Handwoven fabrics and hand-made products: corrections. *Trade and Industry*, 28 February 1974, contained details of a number of Community quotas for 1974 set up by EEC Regulations. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L110, 24 April 1974, contains the texts of corrections to the following of these Regulations which were published in the *Official Journal* L365, 31 December 1973.

Regulation (EEC) 3594/73, page 60, Annex III: and Regulation (EEC) 3595/73, page 82, Annex III:

instead of: 'Ministry of Economic Affairs
Board of Export Promotion'
read: 'Ministry of Commerce
Department of Foreign Trade'.
instead of: 'that the fabrics are of Thail manufacture'
read: 'that the fabrics are of Thai manufacture'.

Page 62, Annex III: Page 84, Annex III:
instead of: 'Board of Export Promotion'
read: 'Department of Foreign Trade'.

EEC information – Inquiry points at Customs and Excise headquarters

General inquiries on EEC matters which are the concern of HM Customs and Excise may be made to the following telephone extensions:
HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. Tel: 01-626 1515

		Extn.
Community Transit	International Customs Division D —Branch 1	
	traders A-K	2263
	traders L-Z	2561
European Communities—general inquiries	International Customs Division D —Branch 4	3055
EEC Free Trade Agreements with EFTA countries	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2385/2165
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, except Greece and Turkey, Anglo-Danish free trade agreement	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2165
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, Greece and Turkey	International Customs Division D —Branch 2	2561
Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, Channel Islands, Isle of Man	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2504
Compensatory levies	International Customs Division G —Branch 3	2343/2307
Copies of public notices and customs forms on EEC matters	General Services Division—Unit 4	3079/2069

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Trade Information

Peter Shore calls for improvement in UK exports to Russia

After signing the ten-year Economic Co-operation Agreement with the USSR on behalf of the British Government in London on 6 May, Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, expressed his hopes for an early increase in the level of trade between the two countries, and particularly in British exports to Russia.

'I believe this Agreement provides a good framework for closer co-operation between Soviet enterprises and British firms in economic, scientific, technological and industrial matters over the next 10 years,' he said.

'It is, however, only a starting point and it is very important, if the opportunities created by the Agreement are to be fulfilled, that both sides quickly get down to working out a concrete and well-defined programme for co-operation.

'We will be discussing this in two weeks' time at the Joint Commission meeting when I look foward to making further progress in co-operation with Mr. Kuzmin's colleagues.

'The object of the Agreement which we have just signed is to strengthen the economic and trade links between our two countries. If we fail to achieve this our work will have been in vain. We look forward to working closely together to establish a concrete programme of economic collaboration which will put flesh on the bare bones of this Agreement.

'The total trade between our two countries, two of the largest industrial nations of the world, which amounted to only £430 million last year, ought to be larger. You will understand that with our pressing balance of payments problems, it is to us particularly disappointing to note the lack of growth in UK exports to the Soviet Union in recent years and that they still amount to less than 1 per cent of our total exports. We hope to see an early and significant improvement in the level of trade and particularly in our own exports.

'We see this Agreement as a new landmark in Anglo-Soviet trade and economic relations. We, in the Department of Trade, will use our best endeavours to ensure that the good intentions of the Agreement are translated as quickly as possible into practical results, and we now look forward to a significant and continuing expansion of all forms of economic co-operation between our two countries.'

Mr. M. R. Kuzmin, Soviet First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade (left), Lord Goronwy Roberts, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Mr. Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade (right), signing the ten-year Agreement between the United Kingdom and the USSR on the development of economic, scientific, technological and industrial co-operation.

Mr. Shore to chair Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission meetings in London

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, will preside at the third meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission to be held at Lancaster House, London, from 20 to 22 May. Academician Vladimir Kirillin, a Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, will lead the Soviet delegation. Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, and Gordon Oakes, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, will also be in the British delegation.

The Joint Commission, which held its first meeting in London in January 1971, and second meeting in Moscow in April 1973, is responsible for reviewing progress in trade and economic relations between the two countries. This third meeting is given added importance by the signing in London on 6 May of the Economic, Scientific, Technological and Industrial Co-operation Agreement, and the Commission will initiate discussions about the proposed concrete programme for collaboration which, it is hoped, will result from that Agreement.

The Commission is also responsible for reviewing the activities of the working groups established under the 1968 Agreement for co-operation in the fields of applied science and technology.

The Soviet delegation will include representatives of the State Committee for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, and some of the industry ministries. In addition to Mr. Shore and other British Ministers, the UK delegation will include the President and Director-General of the CBI, and senior officials from the Departments of Trade and Industry, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Cabinet Office.

New economic agreement with Bulgaria

Ivan Nedev, Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Trade, was due (at the time of going to press) to arrive in London on 13 May at the start of an official visit to the UK as the guest of Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade. The main purpose of the visit will be to sign a new long-term economic co-operation agreement between the two countries. The Bulgarian party also includes Andrei Lukanov, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, who is co-chairman of the United Kingdom/Bulgarian Joint Commission covering trade and industrial co-operation.

Nineteen officials from 16 developing countries are taking part in the 1974 UK export promotion course organised by the Department of Trade and the British Council. The three-month course, financed from Overseas Development Administration technical assistance funds, is held at Manchester University. The picture was taken at a reception given by the Department of Trade at its headquarters in Victoria Street, London. The host was John Ingram (seventh from right) who heads a branch of Commercial Relations and Exports Division 1.

ECGD news

☐ First project line of credit with Guatemala

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed the first UK project line of credit for Guatemala. The loan of £5.5 million is to be used to supply goods and services in connection with the development of facilities to mine and process nickel bearing ore.

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Ltd. acting on behalf of National Westminster Bank Ltd. negotiated the loan with Exploraciones y Explotaciones Mineras Izabal SA (EXMIBAL).

The minimum value for contracts is £50,000 and to qualify under this facility must be entered into before 31 December 1975.

The loan will be repayable over a period of up to 10 years.

Exporters requiring further details of this facility should contact either ECGD, Mr. J. Astruc, tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 287 or Morgan Grenfell, Mr. R. Highman, tel. 01-588 4545.

☐ First line of credit for Peru

The ECGD has also guaranteed the first UK general line of credit to Peru.

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd. acting for Barclays Bank has signed an agreement with the Banco Industrial del Peru for a loan of £1.5 million.

The contracts, which must be nominated by the Banco Industrial, are for UK capital equipment and small projects having a minimum value of £10,000. Repayments will be between two to five years depending upon the size of individual contracts and must be placed within the next 12 months.

Exporters who require further information regarding this facility should contact either Mr. P. F. Day of ECGD, tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 211 or Mr. E. Jones of Schroder Wagg, tel. 01-588 4000.

☐ Plastics factory for Iran

The Export Credits Guarantee Department, under its Overseas Investment Insurance Scheme, has guaranteed an equity investment in Iran by British Industrial Plastics Ltd. (BIP), of Oldbury, Worcestershire, a member of the Turner and Newall Group.

This investment will give BIP a 40 per cent holding in Persepolis Industrial Plastics Ltd., Tehran. This company is to manufacture 33,000 tonnes of formaldehyde, 10,000 tonnes of amino formaldehyde and 6,000 tonnes of urea formaldehyde each year. It will have a work force of 220.

ECGD's maximum liability will be £516,000 for which it will insure against the risks of war, expropriation and restrictions on remittances for a period up to 15 years.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufactuers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by 30 May.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
29.34	Methylphenyldichlorosilane	Phenyl methyl dichlorosilane	31 December 1974	14830
39.02	Polyethylene in forms covered by Note 3(b) of Chapter 39, having a density not less than 0.950 grammes per cubic centimetre, and of which the melt flow index measured by Procedure C of method 105C of British Standard 2782:1970 is not greater than 0.065	High density polyethylene resin	30 June 1975	13971

Code of Practice for British firms in South Africa

A Code of Practice, 'Guidelines for United Kingdom companies with interests in South Africa', has been sent to over 500 British companies with a personal letter from Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade. In the House of Commons on 1 May Mr. Shore referred to the recommendations of the Fifth Report of the Expenditure Committee on the wages and conditions of African workers employed by British firms in South Africa and promised to give the Code of Practice wide publicity (see *Trade and Industry*, 9 May, page 296).

The Code of Practice is as follows:

CODE OF PRACTICE

GUIDELINES FOR UNITED KINGDOM COMPANIES WITH INTERESTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

1. Government policy is summarised in a statement of the Prime Minister made in March 1973: 'I hope that British companies in South Africa would recognise their own interests in establishing a name as good employers, in particular by keeping abreast of the best current practices and opportunities for advancement'. These Guidelines are intended to assist companies in achieving and maintaining good employment practices.

2. In general, companies should ensure as a minimum that as far as possible the management attitudes and practices adopted by their affiliates in South Africa in relation to their employees are consistent with and can bear examination against the attitudes and practices adopted towards their employees in the United Kingdom.

3. British companies having business interests in South Africa or contemplating operations there should ensure that they have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the position of their African workers, and of the economic, social and political forces which govern their lives. There is an abundance of unskilled labour available in the Republic, so that the operation of market forces cannot be relied upon to ensure adequate wages for the unskilled. Because Africans lack the normal trade union rights and there are very few African trade unions, there can be no certainty that collective bargaining will ensure that African wages are adequate. Considerable differences exist in the average earnings from employment of Africans and Whites in all sectors of the economy. Government laws and regulations on the movement, residence and employment of Africans place great power in the hands of employers over their African employees: dismissal may entail the loss of rights to urban residence and employment. The migrant labour system, which has been subject to criticism not only for its economic but also its social consequences, is in many cases legally imposed on companies and their African employees. Various legal, institutional and customary obstacles to equality of opportunity and to the advancement of Africans into better and higher-paying jobs are encountered. The setting in which their subsidiaries and associates operate should be well understood by British companies. It is because of this setting that the present Guidelines have been produced.

4. The impression that employers are effectively prevented from improving the wages or conditions of service of African employees is mistaken. The South African Government has expressed itself in favour of increases in wages for Africans, and it is not opposed to the training and advancement of Africans provided that White workers do not object. It has spoken against the resistance of White trade unions to African advancement. Many South African employers have set progressive goals, as evidenced by statements of an employers' association in favour of trade union rights for Africans, and the minimum wage objectives of various associations. Progressive views have been attributed to some White trade unions. The great shortage of skilled and educated manpower which prevails in South Africa is generally acknowledged to have produced a greater incentive to, and possibility of, African advancement than existed in the past.

5. It is right for British companies to accept a responsibility in relation to the wages and conditions of African employees in their business interests in South Africa, in so far as the companies have the power to control or influence these wages and conditions. The wages and conditions of African employees are an important issue, on which the parent company is advised to formulate certain broad policies. The Main Board director responsible for industrial relations should be no less concerned with industrial relations in South African affiliates than the financial director is with their financial policies.

6. To increase their impact in South African subsidiaries and associates, it is important for parent companies to develop good relationships with them. These can be fostered through periodic visits to the Republic by the Chairman and others in the parent company. Personal visits also enable the parent company to acquire knowledge of wages and conditions in the affiliate. Main Board representation on the South African board is to be recommended. To monitor and assess an affiliate's policies, information should be required regularly on wages and conditions expressed in relation to the policy objectives of the British board.

Industrial Relations

7. In the absence of African membership of trade unions it is advisable to establish, or continue with, effective works committees of African employees as a means of consultation, communication, and training in industrial relations. To be effective, works committees should be democratically elected, should meet regularly and frequently, and should be able to discuss wages and conditions of employment. Practices which hinder the development of African unions should be avoided. African trade unions are not unlawful, and, although they possess none of the normal trade union rights, there is nothing to prevent a company from recognising and negotiating with a trade union representing African workers. The lawful development of collective bargaining with African employees should be encouraged.

The Poverty Datum Line

8. Poverty Datum Line (PDL) and Minimum Effective Level (MEL) estimates can provide a helpful guide to the minimum wages which employers should pay in the Republic. Companies should ensure that there is available an up-to-date PDL and MEL measure appropriate to their lowest-paid workers and their dependents, in each location of operation. Where PDL and MEL estimates are not available, a company should commission experts to undertake such studies, or it should join with other companies – either through an area employers' association or an industry employers' association or an association of British companies (eg UKSATA) or through sponsorship of a national survey – to produce appropriate estimates.

9. The estimators of the PDL regard it as a measure of the barest minimum required to support a family in African living conditions, assuming the wisest allocation of expenditure. A wage equal to the PDL cannot therefore be thought of as a fair one. Companies are urged to accept the MEL as the target for minimum wages, and to establish a timetable for achieving it.

Fringe Benefits

10. There is a case for companies to provide benefits in kind for employees if the benefits would otherwise be provided inadequately or not at all. Where companies provide board and lodging for migrant workers, much can be done to raise the quality of life of these employees. Companies should be familiar with the living conditions of their migrant workers and ensure that high standards of provision are achieved and maintained; but they should also be mindful of the living conditions and needs of their migrant employees' dependants.

11. Assistance with family housing is impeded by laws relating to freehold and residence, but in the case of employees commuting from nearby Bantu homelands there is a possibility of a company helping Africans to acquire their own homes. Much can be done to further the education of African employees, their children and the African community generally: assistance can range from literacy programmes to bursaries for university education. The high demand for education among many Africans makes this a particularly valuable form of assistance. Companies are in a position to ease the problems and insecurity of Africans resulting from restrictions on their movement, residence and employment, by providing advice and legal assistance when problems arise. Firms should determine whether African employees and their dependants have need of medical services in addition to those provided by the State, and, if so, to meet the need. Companies should ensure that African employees are covered by a pension scheme which is comparable in benefits to that of White employees but suited to the needs of Africans, eg migrant employees should not be disadvantaged by broken service. By providing free or

(*continued on page 341*)

subsidised meals, companies can ensure that low-paid employees are nutritiously fed.

12. In the provision of fringe benefits, companies should attempt to redress the disadvantages encountered by Africans in the availability of social amenities and services. Many of the benefits in kind recommended above would be helpful not only to employees but also to employers, by strengthening employee loyalty and reducing labour turnover. There are many institutions and organisations concerned with the welfare of Non-Whites to which companies could make financial contributions.

Migrant Labour

13. Companies should adopt a policy towards migrant labour based not only on the consequences for the company of the migrant system but also on an understanding of the consequences for Africans.

14. There is much that companies can do to see that their employees have a legal right to reside with their families within commuting distance of their work. For instance, there is reason to believe that Government enforcement of migrant employment in some industries is not entirely inflexible. A consideration of importance in choosing a location for a new plant is that some locations permit more use of stable, family-based labour than others. Advice and legal assistance can be given to African employees in relation to the 'pass laws'.

Wage Structure

15. A company's wage structure should be determined irrespective of race, according to principles of job evaluation. 'Equal pay for equal work' will be meaningless so long as Whites and Africans are not employed in the same jobs or grades. Payment of the rate for the job irrespective of race can accelerate the pace of African advancement in times of shortage of skilled labour, because it can give White workers and unions a sense of security against the undercutting of their wages.

16. It should be an objective of company policy to reduce the differential, often large, between the average pay of White and African workers. This can be achieved not only by a narrowing of the wage structure but also by a change in the racial structure of employment.

17. Controlled prices or competitor's practices may hinder British-affiliated companies in their improvement of wages and conditions. It is possible to reduce or overcome these difficulties, as is shown by those companies which have exerted their influence on their competitors (for example, in employers' associations) to raise wages throughout an industry, or on the authorities to introduce or raise statutory minimum wages or to raise controlled prices.

African Advancement

18. Companies are urged to press hard for the advancement of Africans into more qualified and better-paid jobs. Adherence to the *mores*, custom and practice of South African society may mean that opportunities for African advancement are overlooked. It is important that racial discrimination be avoided not only by those at the top of the company but also right down the managerial line. There may be need for a programme to change the attitudes of White supervisors of African employees.

19. There is reason to believe that where legal job reservation exists, it can be avoided by obtaining exemptions, and by careful and diplomatic handling of White workers and trade unions. There is no law preventing a Non-White from being in authority over a White, but a company would have to negotiate with the Government, whose general policy is to prohibit such appointments, and possibly with White workers or unions. In order to ensure equality of opportunity among the races, companies should be prepared to meet the costs involved in duplicating facilities where separate facilities are required by law.

20. Companies which complain of a lack of aptitude or ambition on the part of African workers may find that the problem lies with their own management. Where lack of education prevents African skill-acquisition or promotion, the remedy lies partly in a company's own hands. Moreover, an individual company can raise the educational quality of its labour force by offering attractive pay and conditions.

21. It is important to see African workers as individuals with potential for skill-acquisition and career-development. Wherever the scale of operations permits, companies should establish training departments to provide training for African workers, and to develop their full potential. Where training cannot be provided within the firm, the use of external training courses should be explored. Companies can attempt to overcome the problem that Africans cannot be apprenticed to White artisans, either by means of a training school for artisans or through training on-the-job.

22. Companies should recognise that to recruit skilled workers from Britain and other countries for employment in South Africa can retard the pace of African advancement. Where that is the case, companies are urged not to use White immigrant labour but to endeavour to recruit from the Non-White potential within South Africa and to develop that potential by means of training.

General Advice

23. Companies may feel that to follow some of these Guidelines would be damaging to their profitability. But there are profit advantages in being a good employer, and it is in a company's wider interest to maintain a good reputation. The ability to pay basic wages above the relevant PDL now, at least to all adult male employees, should be regarded as one of the minimum conditions for maintaining or establishing a business interest in South Africa.

24. Given the particular circumstances of British companies operating in South Africa and the continuing interest in their performance, companies should conduct a regular review of these matters at Main Board level so that they may be in a position to satisfy shareholders seeking information. Companies should bear in mind that disclosure followed by scrutiny is an essential characteristic of a free society which no one should fear and from which much good may come.

25. The British Embassy in Pretoria, the British Consulates-General in Johannesburg and other centres, and the Department of Trade and Industry in London are able to give detailed information and advice on PDL and MEL estimates and on the organisations and individuals making these estimates; on the training and advancement of Africans; and on other aspects of wages and conditions. They can also give details of organisations in South Africa which provide information and assistance on these subjects, and on the laws relating to Africans. Companies will find further help in the Fifth Report of the Expenditure Committee of the House of Commons, 1973-74, and in the evidence given to the Trade and Industry Sub-Committee in 1973 (House of Commons papers 116 and 21-I to 21-IV of 1973-74).

Mr. Shore's letter

Mr. Shore sent the Code of Practice with the following letter to the chairmen of British companies with associates or subsidiaries in South Africa:

'Dear Chairman,

'May I draw your attention as Chairman of a Company with interests in South Africa to the report of the Trade and Industry Sub-Committee of the House of Commons Committee on Expenditure on "The Wages and Working Conditions of African Workers Employed by British Firms in South Africa", published on 6 March 1974 as House of Commons Paper 116, and in particular to the Committee's Guidelines for UK companies with interests in South Africa. I enclose a copy of the latter.

'The Government share the Select Committee's belief that it is in the national interest and in the interest of the firms concerned that they should be seen to be following enlightened policies for the welfare of their African workers. This is a matter which has attracted and will continue to attract much public attention and as I told Parliament on 1 May, the Government will take steps to give the Committee's recommended Guidelines the widest publicity.

'I know that some companies are already following employment practices of the kind recommended or are working towards their adoption. But not all are doing so and I am therefore writing to you personally (and to the Chairmen of other British companies with South African affiliates) to urge you to secure the adoption of the recommended policy and practices in your company to the fullest possible extent.

'I want to mention three points about the Guidelines:

(i) figures submitted to the Select Committee may suggest that members of the Coloured and Asian communities are relatively well paid in comparison with Africans, but the need to review the employment conditions of these workers also and to make any necessary improvements should not be overlooked;

(ii) although the Select Committee's inquiry was concerned with

employment practices in the Republic of South Africa, some British firms also operate in Namibia (South-West Africa) and the recommendations in the Guidelines are equally applicable;

(iii) paragraphs 3 and 6 of the Guidelines stress the responsibility of British companies for securing a sound knowledge of the wages and conditions in South African affiliates and of the local background. The Government are reviewing how the official facilities mentioned in paragraph 25 of the Guidelines can be improved to meet the Select Committee's recommendations and it would be helpful to know how far you foresee the need to rely on these facilities. In the meantime my Department and the Embassy and Consulates-General in South Africa will continue to provide all the help they can.

I am giving wide publicity to the text of this letter and the companies to whose Chairmen I am writing and I hope I may count on your co-operation in reviewing the situation in your company as a matter of urgency.

PETER SHORE'

The letter was sent to the following firms:

ACE Machinery (Holdings) Ltd.
AD International Ltd.
APV Holdings Ltd.
Aaronson Bros. Ltd.
Aberdare Holdings Ltd.
Acrow (Engineers) Ltd.
The Adamson Alliance Co. Ltd.
Adressograph-Multigraph Ltd.
Adwest Group Ltd.
Affiliated Music Publishers Ltd.
Air Products
Air Holdings Ltd.
Albright & Wilson Ltd.
Alfa-Laval & Co. Ltd.
Alkaline Batteries Ltd.
M. L. Alkan Ltd.
Allied Breweries Ltd.
Allied Colloids Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Allied Suppliers Ltd.
Amalgamated Power Engineering Ltd.
Jeremiah Ambler Ltd.
Ampex Electronics Ltd.
The Anchor Chemical Co. Ltd.
Anderson Mavor Ltd.
Geo. Angus & Co. Ltd.
Elizabeth Arden Ltd.
Armitage Shanks Ltd.
Armstrong Equipment Ltd.
Ashe Chemical Ltd.
Associated Biscuits Ltd.
Associated Book Publishers Ltd.
Associated British Foods Ltd.
Associated Engineering Ltd.
The Associated Octel Co. Ltd.
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd.
Atkinson Lorries (Holdings) Ltd.
Automotive Products Associated Ltd.
Averys Ltd.

BBA Group Ltd.
BPB Industries Ltd.
BTR Leyland Industries Ltd.
Babcock & Wilcox Ltd.
Baird & Tatlock Ltd.
Baker Perkins Holdings Ltd.
Bank of London and S. America Ltd.
Barclays Bank Ltd.
Bardolin Ltd.
Baring Bros. & Co. Ltd.
Barrow Hepburn & Gale Ltd.
Barton & Sons Ltd.
Geo. Bassett Holdings Ltd.
Bay Hall Trust Ltd.
John Beales Associated Companies
Beautility Ltd.
Bear Brand Ltd.
Beckett, Laycock & Watkinson Ltd.
Beecham Group Ltd.
Berk Ltd.
Bestobell Ltd.
Bifurcated Engineering Co. Ltd.
Birmid Qualcast Ltd.
Black-Clawson International Ltd.
Black & Decker
Black Edgington Ltd.
Blackwood Hodge Ltd.
Blundell-Permoglaze Holdings Ltd.
Blythe, Green, Jourdain & Co.
Bonochord Ltd.
Boots Pure Drug Co. Ltd.
Boosey & Hawkes Ltd.
Bostik Ltd.
Bowater Paper Corporation Ltd.
C. T. Bowring & Co. Ltd.
Bowthorpe Holdings Ltd.
Robt. Bradford (Holdings) Ltd.
Bradley & Craven Ltd.
The Brent Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Bridgend Investment Trust Ltd.
Brightside Engineering Holdings Ltd.
British Airways Board
British American Tobacco Co. Ltd.
British Cellophane Ltd.
British & Commonwealth Shipping Co. Ltd.
British Electric Traction Co. Ltd.
British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd.
British Land Co. Ltd.
British Match Corporation Ltd.
British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd.
The British Oxygen Co. Ltd.
British Petroleum Co. Ltd.
British Printing Corp. Ltd.
British Ropes Ltd.
British Steel Constructions (Birmingham) Ltd.
British Steel Corporation
British Titan Products Co. Ltd.
British Tourist Authority
British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.
British Vita Co. Ltd.
J. Brockhouse & Co. Ltd.
H. Bronnley & Co. Ltd.
Brooke Bond Liebig Ltd.
Brown Bayley Ltd.
The David Brown Corporation Ltd.
John Brown & Co. Ltd.
H. P. Bulmer Ltd.
Bunzl Pulp & Paper Ltd.
Burmah Oil Co. Ltd.
Bydand Ltd.

CCL Systems Ltd.
Cable & Wireless (Holdings) Ltd.
Cadbury Schweppes Ltd.
Caledonia Investments Ltd.
Cammell Laird & Co. Ltd.
W. Canning & Co. Ltd.
Cape Asbestos Co. Ltd.
Caravans International Ltd.
Carpets International Ltd.
Carrier Engineering Co. Ltd.
Carrington & Dewhurst Group Ltd.
Cavenham Foods Ltd.
The Cementation Co. Ltd.
Centrovincial Estates Ltd.
Chalwyn Lamps Ltd.
Chamberlain Phipps Ltd.
Chambon Ltd.
Charter Consolidated Ltd.
The Charterhouse Group Ltd.
Chloride Electrical Storage Co. Ltd.
Chubb & Son Ltd.
C. & J. Clark Ltd.
Clarke & Smith Industries Ltd.
Clarke, Chapman – John Thompson Ltd.
Clarke, Nicholls & Coombs Ltd.
Clarkson International Tools Ltd.
Clayton Dewandre Holdings Ltd.
Clayton Son & Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
H. Clegg & Co. Ltd.
Coast Lines Ltd.
Coates Bros. & Co. Ltd.
Coats Patons Ltd.
A. Cohen & Co. Ltd.
The George Cohen 600 Group Ltd.
J. Collett Ltd.
William Collins & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
Commercial Union Assurance Co. Ltd.
Commonwealth Development Corp.
Commonwealth Development Finance Co. Ltd.
Concrete Utilities Group
Consolidated Goldfields Ltd.
Consolidated Tin Smelters Ltd.
Cope Allman International Ltd.
Copperad Holdings Ltd.
Wm. Cory & Son Ltd.
Richard Costain Ltd.
Court Line Ltd.
Courtaulds Ltd.
Crabtree Electrical Industries Ltd.
Croda International Ltd.
Crown House Ltd.
Cussons Group Ltd.

Dalgety Ltd.
Davidson & Co. Ltd.
Davy International Ltd.
Dawson & Sons
Dawson & Barfos Ltd.
Joseph Dawson (Holdings) Ltd.
Decca Ltd.
Delta Metal Co. Ltd.
Derby & Co. Ltd.
Desoutter Bros. (Holdings) Ltd.
The Dickinson-Robinson Group Ltd.
The Distillers Co. Ltd.
Dorman Smith Holdings Ltd.
Doulton & Co. Ltd.
Dowty Group Ltd.
Drake & Cubitt (Holdings) Ltd.
The Dunlop Co. Ltd.
Duport Ltd.
F. Dupre Ltd.
Dust Control Equipment Ltd.

ERF Ltd.
Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd.
East Asiatic Ltd.
East Rand Consolidated Ltd.
East Sussex Engineering Co. Ltd.
Eastwood & Holt Ltd.
Ebonite Container Co. Ltd.
Economist Intelligence Unit
EMI Ltd.
Electrical & Industrial Securities Ltd.
Ellams Duplicator Co. Ltd.
Ellerman Lines Ltd.
B. Elliott & Co. Ltd.
T. L. Elliott Overseas Ltd.
George Ellison Holdings Ltd.
Emu Wool Industries Ltd.
English China Clays Ltd.
Evans Bros. Ltd.
Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain) Ltd.
Explosives & Chemical Products Ltd.

Federated Paints Ltd.
Feedmobile Ltd.
Frank Fehr & Co. Ltd.
J. H. Fenner & Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
Denis Ferranti Meters Ltd.
Firth Cleveland Ltd.
Thos. Firth & John Brown Ltd.
Fisons Ltd.
A. B. Fleming (Holdings) Ltd.
Fodens Ltd.
Foseco Minsep Ltd.
W. & G. Foyle Ltd.
The Fram Group Ltd.
Alex. Fraser & Son Ltd.
Thos. French & Sons Ltd.
W. & C. French Ltd.

GHP Group Ltd.
Gala Cosmetic Group Ltd.
Gandy Ltd.
W. H. Gaze & Sons Ltd.
Geest Industries Ltd.
Geigy Co. Ltd.
General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corp.
GEC Cos Ltd.
Gestetner Holdings Ltd.
Glaxo Group Ltd.
Globe Investment Trust Ltd.
Glynwed Ltd.
Goblin (BVC) Ltd.
Goode Durrant & Murray (Consolidated) Ltd.
The Gourock Ropework Co. Ltd.
Grant Barnett & Co.
Great Universal Stores Ltd.
N. Greening & Sons Ltd.
Green's Economiser Group Ltd.
Griqualand Exploration & Finance Co. Ltd.
Grundy (Teddington) Ltd.
Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Ltd.
Guest Keen & Nettlefolds Ltd.
The Guthrie Corp. Ltd.

G. N. Haden & Sons Ltd.
Hall Engineering (Holdings) Ltd.
Hall-Thermotank Ltd.
Hallam, Sleigh & Cheston Ltd.
James Halstead Holdings Ltd.
Hamilton Star Ltd.
L. Hammond & Holdings Ltd.
Hampson Jig Tool & Automation Ltd.
L. G. Harris & Co. Ltd.
Harris & Sheldon Group Ltd.
Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd.
Derek Hartle Ltd.
Hawker Siddley Group Ltd.
Quinton Hazell Holdings Ltd.
Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.
Heenan Beddow Ltd.
W. Heinemann Ltd.
P. C. Henderson Ltd.
A. & S. Henry & Co. Ltd.
Arthur Hentzen & Co. Ltd.
Alfred Herbert Ltd.
Heywood Williams Group Ltd.
Hickson & Welch (Holdings) Ltd.
Hield Bros. Ltd.
Highams Ltd.
Hill & Delamain Ltd.
Hill Samuel & Co. Ltd.
H. R. Holfield (Belfast) Ltd.
Hoover Ltd.
Hopkinsons Holdings Ltd.
Alex. Howden (Holdings) Ltd.
James Howden & Godfrey Ltd.
Howe Richardson Scale Co. Ltd.
Robt. Hudson Ltd.
Hudson's Bay Co.
Hunslet (Holdings) Ltd.
Hunting Group of Cos
Hutchinson Ltd.

Illingworth Morris & Co. Ltd.
ICI Ltd.
Inchcape & Co. Ltd.
Incledon & Lambert Ltd.
Industrial & Commercial Finance Corp. Ltd.
Industrial Inspection (International) Ltd.
Ingersoll Rand Co. Ltd.
Insulation Equipments Ltd.
International Combustion Holdings Ltd.
International Compressed Air Corp. Ltd.
International Computers (Holdings) Ltd.
International Distillers & Vintners Ltd.
Ernest Ireland Ltd.

William Jacks & Co. Ltd.
Isaac Jackson Holdings Ltd.
Jessel Securities Ltd.
Jeyes Products Ltd.
Gordon Johnson-Stephen Holdings Ltd.
Johnson Matthey & Co. Ltd.
Johnson & Phillips Ltd.
H. & R. Johnson Richards Tiles Ltd.

Kalamazoo Ltd.
Kangol Ltd.
Keep Bros. Ltd.
George Kent Ltd.
Kleinwort Benson, Lonsdale Ltd.

LRC International Ltd.
John Laing & Son Ltd.
Laird Group
James H. Lamont & Co. Ltd.
Lamson Industries Ltd.
The Land Securities Investment Trust Ltd.
Landel Trust Ltd.
Laporte Industries (Holdings) Ltd.
Laurence, Scott & Electromotors Ltd.
Harold Laycock (Bradford) Holdings Ltd.
Lead Industries Group Ltd.
Legal & General Assurance Society Ltd.
Lep Group Ltd.
Lindustries Ltd.
Lister & Co. Ltd.
F. H. Lloyd Holdings Ltd.
Lloyds & Scottish Ltd.
Thomas Locker (Holdings) Ltd.
Lockwoods Foods Ltd.
London Merchant Securities Ltd.
Lonrho Ltd.
Lopex Ltd.
The Low and Bonar Group Ltd.
Lowe & Carr Ltd.
Lowe & Fletcher Ltd.
Joseph Lucas (Industries) Ltd.
Edward Lumley & Sons Ltd.

McKechnie Brothers Ltd.
Macmillan (Holdings) Ltd.
Management Selection Group Ltd.
Manbre & Garton Ltd.
Manders (Holdings) Ltd.
Maniford Transport Services Ltd.
Marchwiel Holdings Ltd.
The Marconi International Marine Co. Ltd.
Marks & Spencer Ltd.
Marley Ltd.
S. Marshall (Halifax) Ltd.
Mather & Platt Ltd.
Matthews Wrightson Holdings Ltd.

May & Hassell Ltd.
Melbray Group Ltd.
Mercury Securities Ltd.
The Metal Box Co. Ltd.
Metal Closures Group Ltd.
Metal Traders Strauss Ltd.
Midland Aluminium Ltd.
Midland Electric Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Mills & Allen Ltd.
Minerva Fire Detector Co.
Minet Holdings Ltd.
Mitchell Cotts Group Ltd.
Mobbs & Lewis Ltd.
Molins Ltd.
Monotype Corporation Ltd.
Montagu Trust Ltd.
Morgan Crucible Co. Ltd.
Herbert Morris Ltd.
Motor Rail Ltd.
Mullard Radio Valve Co.

Nairn-Williamson (Holdings) Ltd.
National & Grindlays Bank Ltd.
National Employers' Mutual General Insurance Association Ltd.
Isaac Naylor & Sons Ltd.
Negretti & Zambra Ltd.
James Neill Holdings Ltd.
Newey & Taylor Ltd.
Newman Tonks (Holdings) Ltd.
Newton, Chambers & Co. Ltd.
James North & Sons Ltd.
Norprint
Norvic Shoe Co. Ltd.
Norwich Union Life Insurance Society

Ofrex Group Ltd.
Oldham International Ltd.
A. Oppenheimer & Co. Ltd.
Orion Insurance Co. Ltd.
Samuel Osborn & Co. Ltd.
Ozalid Co. Ltd.

PE Holdings Ltd.
Pancreol Ltd.
Parker Pen Co.
Parkinson Cowan Ltd.
Patons & Baldwins Ltd.
Pearl Assurance Co. Ltd.
Pegler-Hattersley Ltd.
Penguin Publishing Co. Ltd.
Pergamon Press Ltd.
Perivale Gutermann Ltd.
Perkins Engines Ltd.
Permali Ltd.
The Permutit Co. Ltd.
G. D. Peters & Co. Ltd.
Philips Electronic & Associated Industries Ltd.
Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.
Photo-Me International Ltd.
Pilkingtons Bros. Ltd.
Pilkington's Tiles Ltd.
Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons Ltd.
The Plessey Co. Ltd.
Portals Holdings Ltd.
Powell Duffryn Ltd.
F. Pratt Engineering Corp. Ltd.
Price, Forbes (Holdings) Ltd.
Pritchard Cleaners (Holdings) Ltd.
Prodorite Ltd.
Provincial Insurance
Purle Bros. (Waste Disposal) Ltd.

RCF Holdings Ltd.
RFD Group Ltd.
Rabone Chesterman Ltd.
Racal Electronics Ltd.
Randalls Group Ltd.
Rank Organisation Ltd.
Rank Hovis McDougall Ltd.
Ransome, Hoffman Pollard Ltd.
Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd.
Readson Ltd.
Reckitt & Coleman Ltd.
Record Ridgway Ltd.
Redland Ltd.
Reed International Ltd.
Reeves & Sons Ltd.
Renold Ltd.
Rentokil Group Ltd.
Revertex Holdings Ltd.
Reyrolle Parsons Ltd.
The Rio-Tinto Zinc Corporation Ltd.
Thos. Robinson & Sons Ltd.
Rockwelds Ltd.
Rotary Hoes Ltd.
Rothmans Ltd.
Rotork Ltd.
Roussel Laboratories Ltd.
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd.
Royal Insurance Co. Ltd.
Royal Sovereign Pencil Co. Ltd.
The Ruberoid Co. Ltd.
Rubery Owen Holdings Ltd.
Walter Runciman & Co. Ltd.
Rush & Tompkins Group Ltd.

SGB Group Ltd.
Sadia Ltd.
Fred. Sage & Co. Ltd.
Sagit Trust Co. Ltd.
George Salter & Co. Ltd.
Arthur Sanderson & Sons Ltd.
Sanderson Kayser Ltd.
Saunders Valve Co. Ltd.
Scholefield Goodman & Sons Ltd.
Schreiber Wood Industries Ltd.
Scottish Cables Ltd.
Sears Holdings Ltd.
Seddon Diesel
Selection Trust Ltd.
Selincourt Ltd.
Sempah Holdings
Senior Economisers Holdings Ltd.
Serck Ltd.
Sheffield Twist Drill & Steel Co. Ltd.
The Shell Group of Companies
Siebe Gorman & Co. Ltd.
Simon Engineering Ltd.
Sirdar Ltd.
Slater, Walker Securities Ltd.
Smith & Nephew Associated Co. Ltd.
Smith & Wellstood Ltd.
A. E. Smith Coggins Holdings Ltd.
Smiths Industries Ltd.
Somic Ltd.
Sounds Attenuators Ltd.
S. African Distillers & Wines Ltd.
South Mills (Textiles) Ltd.
The SW Africa Co. Ltd.
Spear & Jackson Ltd.
Spooner Industries Ltd.
Staflex International Ltd.
Standard & Chartered Banking Group Ltd.
Staplegreen Insurance Holdings Ltd.
Starch Products Ltd.
Staveley Industries Ltd.
The Steel Group Ltd.
Stein Atkinson Stordy Ltd.
Steinberg & Sons (London & South Wales) Ltd.
Stenhouse Industries
Stone-Platt Industries Ltd.
Storey Bros. & Co. Ltd.
Stothert & Pitt Ltd.
Stroud, Riley & Co. Ltd.
Sun Alliance & London Insurance Ltd.
Bernard Sunley & Sons Ltd.
Swan Hunter Group Ltd.

TPT Ltd.
Tanganyika Concessions Ltd.
John Tann Security Ltd.
Tarmac Derby Ltd.
Tate & Lyle Ltd.
Taylor Woodrow Ltd.
Tecalemit Ltd.
Telehoist Ltd.
Telephone Rentals Ltd.
James Templeton & Son Ltd.
The Thomson Organisation Ltd.
Thorn Electrical Industries Ltd.
Thomas Tilling Ltd.
Thurston & Co. Ltd.
Tobacco Securities Trust Co. Ltd.
Tootal Ltd.
Towles Ltd.
Town & City Properties Ltd.
Toye & Co. Ltd.
Tozer, Kemsley & Millbourn (Holdings) Ltd.
Trafalgar House Investments Ltd.
Transport Development Group Ltd.
Transport Holding Co.
Trust Houses Forte Ltd.
Tube Investments Ltd.
Turner & Newall Ltd.
Twinlock Ltd.
Twyfords Ltd.

UK Optical & Industrial Holdings Ltd.
Unibond Ltd.
Unigate Ltd.
Unilever Ltd.
The Union International Co. Ltd.
United City Merchants Ltd.
United Dominions Trust Co.
United Transport Co. Ltd.
United Wire Group Ltd.
Universal Grinding Ltd.
Unochrome International Ltd.
Urwick Orr & Partners Ltd.

Valor Co. Ltd.
Vantona Ltd.
Vapormatic Co. Ltd.
Vernon & Co. (Surgical Dressings) Ltd.
Vickers Ltd.
Viyella International Ltd.

Walker, Crosweller & Co. Ltd.
Andrew Weir & Co. Ltd.
The Weir Group Ltd.
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.
Wellman Engineering Corp. Ltd.
Allen West & Co. Ltd.
Westbourne Publication Ltd.
Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co. Ltd.
Whessoe Ltd.
Whitbread & Co. Ltd.
B. S. & W. Whiteley Ltd.
F. Whitley & Co. Ltd.
Wiggins Teape Ltd.
J. Wilkes Ltd.
Wilkinson Sword Ltd.
W. Williams & Son (Holdings) Ltd.
Willis, Faber & Dumas (Holdings) Ltd.
Willows Francis Ltd.
George Wills & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
Wilmot Breeden (Holdings) Ltd.
George Wimpey & Co. Ltd.
Thos. Witter & Co. Ltd.
Wolf Electric Tools (Holdings) Ltd.
Rudolf Wolff & Co.
A. C. Wood & Sons Ltd.
Wood Hall Trust Ltd.
Woodall-Duckham Group Ltd.
Jonas-Woodhead & Sons Ltd.
Woolcombers (Holdings) Ltd.

Yarrow & Co. Ltd.
A. C. Young & Co. Ltd.
Yorkshire Switchgear & Engineering Co. Ltd.

Export publicity for industry

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, and films for television and other screening. Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.

Northern: Mr H. G. Roberts, Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NEI 4TB (Tel: 27575 – Telex 53277).

East & West Ridings: Mr D. de M. Guilfoyle, OBE, City House, Leeds LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232 – Telex EconPlan 55472 – message to be prefixed for COI).

North Midland: Mr T. Cooban, Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1EW (Tel: 46121 – Telex 37572).

Eastern: Mr A. A. McLoughlin, Block D, Government Buildings, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2DF (Tel: 58911 – Telex 81187).

London & South Eastern: Mr R. Dean, OBE, St. Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, SE1 (Tel: 01-928 2371 – Telex 915444).

Southern: Mr A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 581261 – Telex 848216).

South Western: Mr W. J. D. Irving, MVO, The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071 – Telex 44203).

Midland: Mr D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Birmingham B15 1SH (Tel: 021-643 8191 – Telex 33376).

North Western: Mr H. V. Tillotson, MVO, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BD (Tel: 061-832 9111 – Telex 667830).

Scottish Office: Mr C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3DQ (Tel· 031-556 8501) District Office: 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow C2 (Tel: 041-221 5670 – Telex 77583).

Ulster Office: Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

Welsh Office: Mr Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, 42 Park Place, Cardiff CF1 3PY (Tel: 28066 – Telex 49327).

Tariff and Trade Notices

Irish Republic

Customs duties and regulations: inquiry points
The following notice is published at the request of the Irish Embassy, London:

> The Embassy has, for many years, endeavoured to provide British exporters with reliable information on its country's Customs duties and Customs formalities. Because of Ireland's EEC obligations, the current Irish Customs and Excise Tariff is so complex that the provision of an authoritative information service by the Embassy has become impracticable.
>
> Exporters wishing to obtain information as to the incidence of Irish Customs duties and Customs formalities are advised to consult henceforth the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2 (tel. Dublin 686611 for Tariff information, and Dublin 776831 for information about Customs procedures and formalities).

Inquiries for information about current rates of duty, taxes and other regulations affecting imports into the Irish Republic may also be addressed to the Department of Trade, Overseas Tariffs and Regulations (OTAR) Section, of Export Data Branch, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Exporters are, however, reminded that the final decision regarding the classification and the amount of duty levied on goods imported into the Irish Republic rests with the Irish Revenue Commissioners. **EDB ext. 467/466/288**

Belgium

Cigarettes: excise duties
The *Moniteur Belge*, 13 April 1974, published a decree dated 29 March 1974 amending the excise duties on cigarettes. In addition to the *ad valorem* and specific excise duties already levied, cigarettes manufactured in or imported into Belgium are now subject to a special excise duty of 0.003 francs each, the cumulative total of the *ad valorem*, specific and special excise duties not being less than 0.44 francs per cigarette. The decree came into force on 16 April 1974. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. **EDB ext. 288/466/467**

The first 'Victory 48' – a new class of British long-range glassfibre cruising yachts – is loaded at Tyler Boat Company's work at Tonbridge, Kent, prior to delivery to the Netherlands. Continental finishing and marketing are with Anne Wever of Holland, and the class name of 'Trintella V' has been adopted. The yacht is a larger sister ship to well-known Victory 40/Trintella IV ketch. Boatbuilders will welcome the 48's separate glassfibre cockpit moulding. It need not be fitted to the deck until after the engine, furniture and other large items of equipment have been installed in the hull, which allows them to provide more working space than is usual. Victory 48 is designed for a 95 b.h.p. Perkins 6-354 engine.

Price control regulations
The *Moniteur Belge* of 23 March 1974 published a decree dated 21 March 1974, amending the decree of 1 March 1973 concerning temporary changes to the price control regulations. The notification period for price rises, which should have returned to two months on 1 April 1974, will now remain at three months until 1 June 1974. Copies of the decree (in French) are available.

The *Moniteur Belge*, 17 April 1974, published two decrees dated 3 April 1974 on the price control of perfumery, toiletry and cosmetic products (BN 33.06 and 34.01), and single and compound nitrate fertilisers, including liquid fertilisers. The decrees came into force on 17 April 1974. Copies of the decrees (in French) are available.
EDB ext. 288/466/467

Cosmetics
The *Moniteur Belge* of 28 March 1974 published a decree dated 15 March 1974, amending the decree of 24 May 1973 concerning cosmetic products. An English translation is being prepared, but copies of the decree (in French) are available.
EDB ext. 288/466/467

Netherlands

Food regulations: wine decree
Decree of 8 March 1974 ('Staatsblad' 169) amends the Wine Decree (Commodity Law). Copies of the decree (in Dutch) are available. An English translation incorporating the amendments is being prepared and should be available in about a month's time.
EDB ext. 288/466/467

Italy

Airport and seaport charges
The Italian *Gazzetta Ufficiale*, 13 March 1974, published decree-Law No. 47 instituting (with immediate effect) a charge on goods loaded and unloaded in Italian airports and seaports with a maximum amount of 100 lire per kilogramme charged on goods at airports and 90 lire per metric ton on goods at seaports. The full text of the decree-law (in Italian) can be sent on request or seen at Export House. **EDB ext. 466/467/288**

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB) Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Gibraltar has issued the first self-adhesive postage stamps in Europe. The use of 'non-lick' technique has made possible a new approach to the book of stamps, making it an attractive tourist souvenir. In conjunction with the Crown Agents two British companies have pioneered this marketing approach to postage stamps – Samuel Jones and Co. Ltd., leading world suppliers of postage stamp papers, and Walsall Security Printers Ltd., innovators of self-adhesive stamps.

Spain

Sterilising machines: joint assembly

In the *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974 the Spanish authorities published approval under the special system of joint assembly (see *Board of Trade Journal*, 11 August 1967) of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of sterilising machinery (continuous) with a capacity of up to 15,000 litres per hour, tariff headings 84.17.J.1 and 84.17.J.2. The parts, components and auxiliary material which may have to be imported for inclusion in the Spanish manufacture, ie homogenisors, stainless steel tubes and plates, valves and joints, accessories, will be subject to a reduction of 95 per cent of the corresponding import duty.

On application a specific resolution could be approved by the Spanish Directorate of Tariff Policy given a technical and sufficiently detailed description of the parts, components, etc. to be imported with the reduced import duty, provided the total value of such parts does not exceed 50 per cent of the total industrial cost price. From the time of coming into force of the first specific resolution for the joint assembly of these sterilising machines all customs duty reductions or exemptions for the import of this type of equipment will be suspended. The current pro forma resolution will remain in force until 15 January 1976.

British exporters interested in proposing themselves as potential partners should send details of their equipment to the British Embassy, Commercial Department, Fernando el Santo 16, Madrid 4, who will make local inquiries on their behalf. Other inquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Tractors: joint assembly

In the *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974 the Spanish authorities published approval under the special system of joint assembly (see *Board of Trade Journal*, 11 August 1967) of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of tractors between 125 and 200 hp, tariff heading 87.01. The parts, components and auxiliary material which may have to be imported for inclusion in the Spanish manufacture, ie hydrokinetic transmission with torque converter, or hydrostatic transmission and/or winch will be subject to a reduction of 95 per cent of the corresponding import duty.

On application a specific resolution could be approved by the Spanish Directorate of Tariff Policy given a technical and sufficiently detailed description of the parts, components, etc. to be imported with the reduced import duty, provided the total value of such parts does not exceed 17 per cent of the total industrial cost price. From the time of coming into force of the first specific resolution for the joint assembly of these tractors all customs duty reductions or exemptions for the import of this type of equipment will be suspended. The current pro forma resolution will remain in force until 9 April 1976.

British exporters interested in proposing themselves as potential partners should send details of their equipment to the British Embassy, Commercial Department, Fernando el Santo 16, Madrid 4, who will make local inquiries on their behalf. Other inquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Tubes, pipes and accessories for the main system of nuclear power stations: joint assembly

In the *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974,the Spanish authorities published approval under the special system of joint assembly (see *Board of Trade Journal*, 11 August 1967) of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of tubes, pipes and accessories for the main systems of nuclear power stations, tariff headings 73.18, 73.20 and 73.40. The parts, components and auxiliary material which may have to be imported for inclusion in the Spanish manufacture will be subject to a reduction of 95 per cent of the corresponding import duty.

On application a specific resolution could be approved by the Spanish Directorate of Tariff Policy given a technical and sufficiently detailed description of the parts, components, etc. to be imported with the reduced import duty, provided the total value of such parts does not exceed 64 per cent of the total industrial cost price. From the time of coming into force of the first specific resolution for the joint assembly of these tubes, pipes and accessories for the main systems of nuclear power stations, all customs duty reductions or exemptions for the import of this type of equipment will be suspended. The current pro forma resolution will remain in force until 14 November 1977.

British exporters interested in proposing themselves as potential partners should send details of their equipment to the British Embassy, Commercial Department, Fernando el Santo 16, Madrid 4, who will make local inquiries on their behalf. Other inquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Auxiliary steam turbines for power stations: joint assembly

In the *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974, the Spanish authorities published approval under the special system of joint assembly (see *Board of Trade Journal*, 11 August 1967) of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of auxiliary steam turbines for power stations, tariff heading 84.05.B.1.

The parts, components and auxiliary material which may have to be imported for inclusion in the Spanish manufacture will be subject to a reduction of 95 per cent of the corresponding import duty.

On application a specific resolution could be approved by the

Write or phone the Specialists:

A. C. SHAW (EXPORT) SALES CO. LIMITED

127 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DH. Tel. 01-606 9417/8 8567 for by return delivery of

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Export (Certified) Invoices, Bills of Exchange and Sight Drafts

Publishers of: Shaw's Exporters' Guide & Shipping Department Bulletin only £6.50 p.a.

Export Procedure and Documentation—only 40p post paid.

Spanish Directorate of Tariff Policy given a technical and sufficiently detailed description of the parts, components, etc., to be imported with the reduced import duty, provided the total value of such parts does not exceed 60 per cent of the total industrial cost price. From the time of coming into force of the first specific resolution for the joint assembly of these auxiliary steam turbines all customs duty reductions or exemptions for the import of this type of equipment will be suspended. The current pro forma resolution will remain in force until 14 November 1978.

British exporters interested in proposing themselves as potential partners should send details of their equipment to the British Embassy, Commercial Department, Fernando el Santo 16, Madrid 4, who will make local inquiries on their behalf. Other inquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Power generators less than 250 mVA for power stations: joint assembly

Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 3 February 1972, page 225, of the Spanish authorities' approval under special system of joint assembly of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of turbine electric generators with less than 250 mVA power for thermo-electric power stations valid until 15 August 1973. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974, announced the extension of the period of validity until 14 August 1978. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Hydraulic turbines: joint assembly

Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 13 January 1972, page 73, of the Spanish authorities' approval under special system of joint assembly of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of hydraulic turbines of over 30,000 hp, tariff heading 84.07, valid until 20 December 1973. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 10 April 1974, announced the extension of the period of validity until 19 December 1978.

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473

Bicycle tyres and inner tubes: duty suspended

The Spanish *State Gazette*, 30 April 1974, announced the suspension of import duty until 29 July 1974 on tyres and inner tubes for bicycles, as follows:

Tariff headings	Description
40.11.B	Inner tubes, weighing:
3	0.5 kg or less
40.11.C	Pneumatic tyres, including tubeless tyres:
2	Other, (than for aircraft) including reinforced cycle tyres and flaps, weighing each:
d	2 kg or less

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473

Foodstuffs: import duty suspension – correction

In a *Trade and Industry* notice of 9 May 1974, page 298, two of the tariff headings, 17.02.A.2.a.2 and 17.02.A.2.b.7, should have read, respectively, as follows: 15.07.A.2.a.7, sunflower seed oil, crude and 15.07.A.2.b.7; sunflower seed oil, refined or purified.

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473

Austria

Product Declaration Sign

To enable the consumer to draw a direct comparison between the technical specifications of different makes of certain electrical and other goods, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry regulates a voluntary system of product marking. The system provides that specified technical information is displayed on equipment in a standard form, in which event it may be accompanied by the Product Declaration Sign. The system, although not mandatory, is growing in importance and the Product Declaration Sign is gradually coming to be regarded as a mark of quality. Its use therefore may prove to be a valuable sales asset.

The products so far covered include TV and radio sets, cassette-tape recorders, vacuum cleaners, electric refrigerators and domestic electric deep-freeze equipment, dish washing machines, electric irons, ultra-violet and infra-red radiation equipment and non-textile floor coverings.

Copies of the decrees, giving the technical data required (including suitable wording) and other conditions to be fulfilled, are available in the original German text. Unofficial translations are available for TV sets, vacuum cleaners, ultra-violet and infra-red radiation equipment and non-textile floor coverings. **EDB ext. 458/461**

Registered trade marks

The lists of Tariff, Customs and Import Regulations changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Switzerland

Tobacco tax

Swiss Recueil No. 14 of 22 April 1974 published an order increasing with effect from 1 June 1974 the rates of tobacco tax on cigarettes. The new rates are as follows:

Retail price per piece (price category)	Up to 800 g (weight per 1,000 pieces including paper but excluding fixed holder or filter) Fr.
Up to 7 centimes	30.00
Up to 8 centimes	34.00
Up to 9 centimes	35.00
Up to 9.5 centimes	35.50
Over 9.5 centimes	36.00

EDB ext. 460/461

Kuwait

Tariff increases

An order published in the Digest of the Kuwait *Official Gazette*, No. 977, 21 April 1974, increased the customs tariff to 15 per cent on all imported products which are similar to the following locally manufactured products:

Lead-acid starter batteries for motor cars

Diapers

Detergents, shampoos (liquid) and deodorants (of the aerosol type)

The order took effect on 21 April 1974 and will operate for a period of five years

A customs tariff of 4 per cent will be levied on any of the products

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governed by this order if it is established that a letter of credit had been opened through a local bank before the publication of this order.
EDB ext. 420/475

South Africa

Copper or brass tubes and pipes: customs tariff application
Customs Tariff Application List No. 627, published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 10 May 1974, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on certain tubes and pipes of copper or brass.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department. **CRE ext. 5274**

Television interference: trade opportunities
An article produced by the South African Bureau of Standards Division of Electronics and Acoustics discusses the effects of recent legislation relating to the electro magnetic interference in television reception. It is thought that there may well be useful trade opportunities resulting from this legislation for British manufacturers. The document is available for inspection. **EDB ext. 266**

Import control: permit issues
The South African Minister of Economic Affairs announced on 26 April that a second round of permit issues, equivalent to 40 per cent of the total permits issued during 1973, would be granted for the following classes or categories of goods:

a consumer goods
b clothing
c confectionery
d (i) all alcoholic beverages, including whisky
(ii) whisky alone.

In accordance with normal practice, further permit allocations for 1974 would again be considered during July.
EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

Canada

Export and Import Permits Act
Bill C4, an Act to amend the Export and Import Permits Act, received its second reading in the Canadian Parliament on 24 April. The Bill is intended to empower the Government to restrict exports of unprocessed natural resources and to require a greater degree of domestic processing. Another provision would allow the Canadian Government to limit or keep under surveillance the export of any raw or processed material produced in Canada in circumstances of surplus supply or depressed prices. It is also proposed that the Export and Import Permits Act which is at present renewable every five years and which is due to expire on 31 July this year, be made permanent.

In announcing the Bill, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce emphasised that the federal Government had no immediate intention of limiting the export of any particular raw material. The amendment was being sought only to permit the Government to resort to controls if other measures designed to increase domestic processing of raw materials proved unsuccessful. **CRE ext. 5629**

United States

Tariff study
Trade and Industry of 21, 28 March and 25 April announced that the US Tariff Commission had released certain draft schedules and a tentative schedule of hearings as part of their study into US adoption of the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature. Draft schedules are now available for:

Fish and shellfish
Raw vegetable materials for industrial uses
Other vegetable products
Sugar and sugar confectionery
Beverages, spirits and vinegar
Raw hides, skins and leather
Leather goods
Fur and fur products
Footwear
Jewellery and precious metals
Live animals
Meat
Dairy produce
Other animal products
Cereals
Starch and allied products
Oil and seed grain products
Animal and vegetable oils and fats
Cereal products
Food manufacturing waste
Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances
Electrical equipment
Musical instruments and radio, television and sound recorders and reproducers and accessories
Live trees, bulbs, roots and other plants
Coffee, tea and spices
Cocoa
Tobacco
Articles of feathers, down, human hair, artificial flowers and fans
Iron and steel and associated products
Furniture, bedding and soft furnishings
Carves or moulded articles
Miscellaneous manufactured articles
Works of art, collector's pieces and antiques

CRE ext. 5397

Dominican Republic

Port taxation
The Dominican Republic authorities have issued Law No. 644, effective from 27 March 1974, providing for an import or export tax of 5 centavos per ton on all types of goods passing through Dominican ports. **EDB ext. 7312/474/476**

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, with Percival J. Patterson, Jamaican Minister of Industry and Tourism. The picture was taken in Mr. Shore's office during Mr. Patterson's recent visit to London.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1971	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,494	9,223	2,129	2,087	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1969	97	98	98	93	92	416	320	42	13	445	−143	588
1970	99	100	100	100	100	267	175	68	38	692	−9	701
1971	100	103	100	92	101	−7	−218	52	21	1,067	285	782
1972	102	109	102	83	111	−394	−498	28	22	69	−677	746
1973	108	114	106	88	116	720	433	34	227	−1468	−2375	907
1971 3rd qtr	101	104	101	92	105	−18	67	9	15	380	172	208
4th qtr	101	105	101	88	102	—	−47	3	21	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr	100	106	103	88	105	−131	−156	15	−9	71	−121	192
2nd qtr	102	108	102	84	110	−100	−145	−12	40	112	−64	176
3rd qtr	102	110	102	81	110	−83	−125	4	−8	−116	−284	163
4th qtr	105	111	102	81	118	−80	−72	22	−1	+2	−208	210
1973 1st qtr	108	115	109	87	123	247	168	18	31	−186	−351	165
2nd qtr	108	113	102	84	107	209	87	−14	154	−196	−399	203
3rd qtr	108	114	107	91	116	120	79	18	22	−357	−606	249
4th qtr	108	114	108	92	121	144	98	14	20	−729	−1019	290
1974 1st qtr		112										
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs	+0.2	+0.1	+2.1	+6.5	+3.0							
on a year earlier	+4.5	+3.0	+5.5	+12.9	+3.5							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages	Index‡	% increase on a year earlier				mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	188	658	659
1971	100.3	99.5	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	733	709
1972	102.4	101.9	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	761	818
1973	109.7	110.1	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.1	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	953	1,151
1972 2nd qtr	102.7	101.2	104.6	147	162.7	6.2	106.1	113.5	98.1	838	3.7	132	764	786
3rd qtr	102.9	102.3	107.2	139	165.4	6.5	109.4	115.6	102.2	808	3.6	147	684	779
4th qtr	105.8	105.4	109.5	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	750	3.3	179	871	940
1973 1st qtr	110.2	110.4	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	667	2.9	228	878	995
2nd qtr	109.3	109.4	108.0	136	177.9	9.3	133.4	120.1•	112.6	605	2.6	289	931	1,064
3rd qtr	110.3	110.7	110.5	143	180.2	9.2	150.5	124.2	118.4	562	2.5	334	995	1,197
4th qtr	108.8	109.7	112.3r	119	186.8	10.3	167.2	129.1	120.9	489	2.2	364	1,008	1,348
1974 1st qtr			110.1	103	101.4	12.9	206.4 p	138.4 p	124.8	543	2.4	285	1,131 p	1,546 p
1973 Apr	109.0	109.0	106.9	138	176.7	9.2	130.5	118.8•	112.3	616	2.7	271	940	956
May	108 9	108.0	106.5	134	178.0	9.5	132.4	120.1	113.2	605	2.7	291	894	1,139
June	110.0	111.1	110.1	135	178.9	9.3	137.2	121.3	115.6	593	2.6	304	960	1,198
July	110.3	110.5	110.6	147	179.7	9.4	145.1	122.7	116.0	581	2.6	324	961	1,145
Aug	109.7	110.3	110.8	153	180.2	8.9	152.4	124.1	119.7	563	2.5	330	980	1,206
Sept	110.8	111.4	110.2	129	181.8	9.3	154.1	125.8	120.0	542	2.4	349	1,043	1,239
Oct	110.8	111.3	111.7	127	185.4	9.9	161.4	127.7	120.3	512	2.3	363	982	1,385
Nov	109.8	111.3	112.3	126	186.8	10.3	165.5	129.0	120.8	486	2.2	368	1,022	1,304
Dec	105.4	106.6	112.9	103	188.2	10.6	174.8	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362	1,019	1,354
1974 Jan	99.4	99.8	109 5	93	191.8	12.0	203.0	134.1	123.6	535	2.4	304	1,015 p	1,398 p
Feb	101.2	104.4	110.3	109	101.7†	13.2†	207.0	138.5	124.6	549	2.4	278	1,150 p	1,579 p
Mar			110.4	106	102.6	13.5	208.8 p	142.5 p	126.3	545	2.4	274	1,209 p	1,662 p
Apr			108.5 p	98 p			209.1 p	147.2 p		546 p	2.4 p	297 p		
% change last qtr on prev. qtr	−7.4	−6.9	−1.7	−2.8	+4.2		+15.0	+8.7	+3.1	+10.0		−18.0	+12	+15
on a year earlier	−5.7	−4.3	−1.2	−29.5	+12.9		+61.9	+20.3	+14.6	−14.3		+12.6	+28	+55

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan 1974 = 100.

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PQ 217	Cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 229.2	Starch and miscellaneous foods for third quarter 1973
PQ 274	Paint for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 279.5	Printing ink for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 334	Industrial engines for third quarter 1973
PQ 352	Watches and clocks for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 362	Insulated wires and cables for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 366	Electronic computers for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 370	Ship and boat building, repairing and marine engineering for third quarter 1973
PQ 395	Cans and metal boxes for fourth quarter 1973
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PQ 399.3	Safes, locks, latches, keys and springs for fourth quarter 1973
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PQ 411	Production of man-made fibres for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 429.1	Asbestos for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 431	Leather (tanning and dressing) and fellmongery for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 450	Footwear for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 464	Cement for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 469.1	Abrasives for fourth quarter 1973
PQ 469.2	Miscellaneous building materials and mineral products for fourth quarter 1973
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Inquiries about the distribution of Business Monitors may be made to the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Mon. NPT 1XG (tel. 0633-56111, ext. 2700; Telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport).

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	ø fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Retailers' stocks in March

The value of stocks at constant prices held by retailers at the end of March showed an increase of 8 per cent over the corresponding month last year. This is the same as the figure for February, and as the volume of retail sales was virtually the same in February and March, it appears that with the return to full-time working the supply problems which may have affected the level of stocks in January and February have now eased.

Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1966 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*
(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At current prices:												
1966	93	97	100	100	101	102	100	101	103	108	112	100
1967	97	100	102	103	103	104	102	103	104	111	115	102
1968	101	103	107	108	110	111	109	110	112	119	124	112
1969	110	113	117	117	119	119	117	115	118	126	132	119
1970	115	117	120	122	121	122	121	120	123	131	138	125
1971	120	123	127	129	129	131	128	128	132	143	150	136
1972	130	134	138	139	139	142	138	139	142	154	163	145
1973	140	144	150	146	149	153	152	153	159	172	183	167
1974	162	163	171									
1969	*9*	*10*	*9*	*9*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*5*	*6*	*6*	*6*	*6*
1970	*4*	*4*	*3*	*4*	*2*	*3*	*3*	*4*	*4*	*4*	*5*	*5*
1971	*5*	*5*	*6*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*9*	*8*
1972	*8*	*7*	*9*	*8*	*8*	*9*	*8*	*8*	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*7*	*9*									
At constant (December 1966) prices:												
1966	96	100	103	103	103	104	101	101	103	109	113	100
1967	97	100	105	103	104	104	102	102	104	110	114	102
1968	100	102	105	104	106	106	104	105	106	113	118	106
1969	102	105	108	108	109	108	106	105	107	114	118	106
1970	102	103	106	106	105	106	104	102	104	110	115	104
1971	99	101	103	103	102	104	101	101	104	112	117	105
1972	100	102	105	106	106	108	105	105	106	114	120	107
1973	103	105	109	116	117	120	117	116	120	127	134	122
1974	115	114	118									
1969	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*2*	*2*	*—*	*1*	*1*	*—*	*1*
1970	*–1*	*–1*	*–2*	*–1*	*–3*	*–2*	*–3*	*–2*	*–2*	*–3*	*–3*	*–2*
1971	*–3*	*–3*	*–2*	*–3*	*–3*	*–2*	*–2*	*–1*	*–1*	*2*	*1*	*1*
1972	*1*	*2*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*4*	*3*	*4*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*
1973	*3*	*3*	*4*	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*	*11*	*13*	*11*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*8*	*8*									

Retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1966 were £1,321 million at current prices.

With the introduction of VAT, the current price estimates of stocks are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series between March and April, and, for the time being, the usual comparisons with a year earlier will not be given. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are consistent with those for earlier months.

The series are now rebased on the final results of the 1966 census of distribution. The method of computation has also been improved. The new series were first introduced in an article published in *Trade and Industry*, on 20 September 1973.

UK overseas trade in 1973

SUMMARY

1973 was a year in which the international trading scene was characterised by very large increases in commodity prices and by substantial movements in the exchange rates of major currencies. These factors acted adversely upon the United Kingdom's trading position and were largely responsible for the substantial increase in the visible trade deficit to £2,375 million. This followed a deficit of £677 million in 1972 and a surplus of £285 million in 1971 (exceptional, since visible trade historically has usually been in deficit). Net earnings abroad from services and other current transactions (eg travel, shipping, insurance, interest, profits and dividends etc.) are estimated to have been £907 million, a substantial increase on the surplus of £746 million achieved in 1972. Despite this, the deterioration in visible trade led to a deficit on current account of £1,468 million in 1973 following the small surplus of £69 million in the previous year.

The value of exports in 1973 was 25 per cent higher than in the previous year, with increases in price and volume each accounting for roughly half the rise in value. Moreover the expansion in the volume of exports was about double the 6 per cent annual average rate of growth over the period 1967-1972. Important factors in this buoyant export performance were the growth in the volume of world trade, which accelerated from a below trend rate of increase in 1972, and the greater competitiveness of our exports which resulted from the depreciation of sterling (the effects of which will continue to be felt in 1974).

The increase in the value of imports last year was 41 per cent, substantially more than the rise in the value of exports. Around one-third of the rise was due to a greater volume of shipments which arrived in response to the growth in the domestic economy; the remainder reflected higher prices. The rise in import prices occurred partly because of the depreciation of sterling: by the end of 1973 the £ had depreciated by 17 per cent against the weighted average of the major currencies compared with the pre-float position. A greater influence on import prices, accounting for something like two-thirds of the increase was the sharp rise in world commodity prices which began in the middle of 1972. The reasons for the rise are varied (eg crop failures, an excess of demand over supply as world economic activity expanded) but in total produced the largest increase since the Korean war: measured by the United Nations indices of export prices of primary products and non-ferrous metals, prices in 1973 (in sterling terms) were 42 per cent higher than in 1972.

A further factor affecting the United Kingdom trading position was the increase in the price of crude oil in the final quarter of the year. The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries introduced a large price increase in October and this began to affect the value of imports towards the end of the year. The main impact, however, will come through in 1974.

Thus the broad picture that emerges for visible trade in 1973 is one in which the volume of imports increased only slightly more rapidly than the volume of exports: however the rise in import prices was substantially greater than the rise in export prices – the prime reason for the marked deterioration in the visible trade balance between 1972 and 1973. Indeed about four-fifths of the deterioration in the visible balance resulted from the worsening of the terms of trade. Between these two years, the terms of trade index fell by 12 per cent; the import unit value index rising by 28 per cent and the export unit value index rising by 13 per cent.

EXPORTS

The value of exports in 1973 was £11,435 million on a balance of payments basis, 25 per cent higher than in 1972. This expansion represents a marked recovery from the slow rate of growth of 4 per cent in the previous year. Export prices rose rapidly in 1973, by 13 per cent; there was a strong growth of 12 per cent in the volume of exports, a rate about twice the annual average of the previous five years.

The sharp rise in our exports reflected in part the marked recovery in world trade in manufactures, the value of which is estimated to have increased by 33 per cent and the volume by 13-14 per cent in 1973 compared with 18 per cent and 8 per cent respectively in 1972. In addition, between June 1972 when the £ was allowed to float and the end of 1973 sterling depreciated by around 17 per cent against a weighted average of the major currencies; the increase in export competitiveness that this generated also contributed to our export performance.

In the first half of 1973, exports rose very fast followed by an easing in the second. In the first six months of 1973 the value of exports was 16 per cent greater than in the second half of 1972; this rate of increase may have been influenced by some delayed recovery from the effects of the UK dock strike in the third quarter of 1972 but most of the recovery had occurred before the end of 1972. About two-thirds of the increase in the first half of 1973 reflected a rise in volume and one-third higher export prices. In the same period the volume of manufactured goods exported rose by 12 per cent, somewhat faster than the increase in the volume of world trade in manufactures, implying that in the first half of 1973 the UK increased its volume share of world trade.

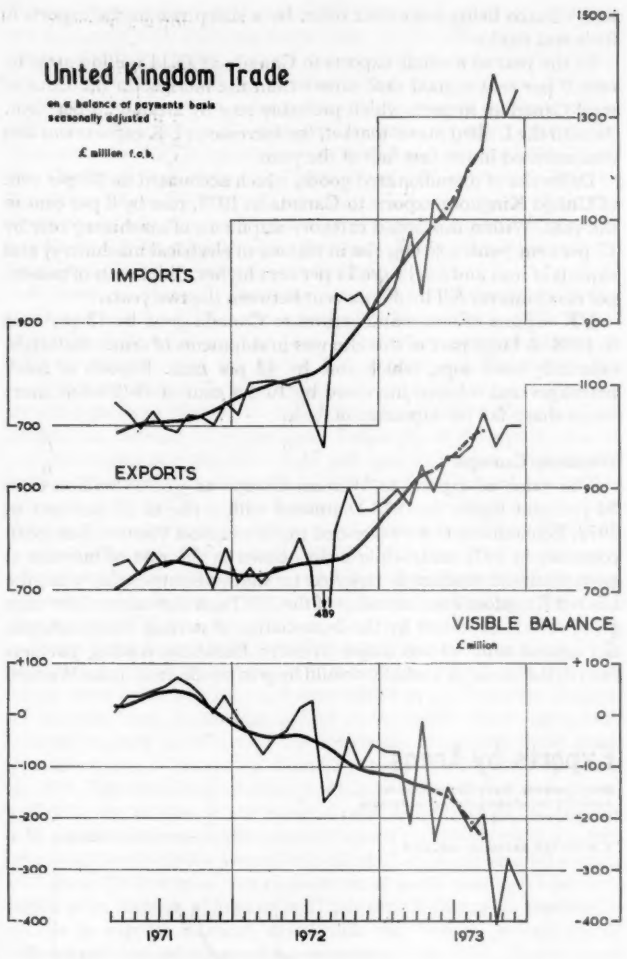
There was an easing in the increase in the value of exports in the second half of 1973 but the rate was still high at 11 per cent, compared with the previous six months. Between the two halves the volume of exports increased by 2 per cent and the volume of manufactured goods rose by 3 per cent. The marked increase in prices in the

TABLE 1 Visible trade

Seasonally adjusted values§ — £ million

	Exports				Imports				
	Overseas Trade Statistics basis fob	Coverage adjustments	Net allowance for factors affecting recording***	Balance of payments basis fob	Overseas Trade Statistics basis cif	Freight insurance and other valuation adjustments	Coverage adjustments‡	Balance of payments basis fob	Visible balance
1964	4,565	− 99	+ 20	4,486	5,696	− 594	− 97	5,005	− 519
1965	4,901	−124	+ 40	4,817	5,751	− 584	−112	5,054	− 237
1966	5,255	−131	+ 60	5,184	5,949	− 583	−109	5,257	− 73
1967	5,230	−186	+ 80	5,124	6,437	− 666	− 90	5,681	− 557
1968	6,434	−290	+130	6,274	7,897	− 778	−186	6,933	− 659
1969	7,339	−319	+ 43	7,063	8,315	− 821	−288	7,206	− 143
1970	8,061	−329	+161	7,893	9,037	− 901	−234	7,902	− 9
1971	9,181	−488	+103	8,796	9,821	− 996	−314	8,511	+ 285
1972	9,746	−612	—	9,134	11,138	−1,033	−294	9,811	− 677
1973	12,455	−1,020	—	11,435	15,854	−1,372	−672	13,810	−2,375
1971 1st half	4,393	−212	+ 87	4,268	4,839	− 508	−116	4,215	+ 53
2nd half	4,789	−276	+ 16	4,529	4,982	− 489	−196	4,297	+ 232
1972 1st half	4,759	−289	—	4,470	5,304	− 503	−146	4,655	− 185
2nd half	4,986	−322	—	4,664	5,834	− 530	−148	5,156	− 492
1973 1st half	5,851	−423	—	5,427	7,070	− 636	−256	6,178	− 750
2nd half	6,604	−596	—	6,008	8,785	− 736	−416	7,633	−1,625

§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
*** See note 1 (d).
‡ Including adjustments for arrivals of and payments for United States military aircraft, etc. up to the end of 1972.



second half year was partly the result of increased costs of production and, in particular, rapidly rising import prices. In part also the increase may have been due to exporters choosing to raise their profit margins on goods for export which was made possible by the competitive advantage given to them by the downward float of sterling at a time when home profit margins were pegged under the Government's counter-inflationary programme.

The slackening in the growth in the volume of exports of manufactured goods during the course of the year meant that, in spite of the good performance in the first half-year, for 1973 as a whole the UK's share in the volume of world trade in manufactures was much the same as in the previous year. However this was an improvement on the 1972 performance when our share declined as world trade in manufactured goods rose substantially faster than our exports of these goods.

For 1973 as a whole deliveries to Western Europe, which continued to increase in importance as a market, taking just over half of all the UK's exports in the year, grew by 34 per cent. This increase was spread amongst virtually all countries. Deliveries to North America rose by 21 per cent with shipments to the United States 25 per cent higher and Canada 9 per cent higher. Exports to the sterling area outside Europe were 18 per cent above their 1972 level and those to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe rose by 17 per cent. Deliveries to Latin America rose by only 5 per cent in 1973 while exports to the rest of the world were 39 per cent higher, including a rise of 59 per cent in exports to Japan. Manufactured goods, which accounted for 84 per cent of total exports, increased in value in 1973 by 27 per cent. Within this wide commodity group, deliveries of chemicals rose by 32 per cent and of other semi-manufactures by 38 per cent. Exports of non-electrical machinery rose by 17 per cent, electrical machinery by 22 per cent and transport equipment by 20 per cent. Non-manufactured exports in total grew by 34 per cent, including a 55 per cent increase in the value of shipments of fuels, and a 48 per cent increase in deliveries of food and live animals.

TABLE 2 Changes in value, volume and unit values of exports and imports on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted except Unit Values

	Exports fob			Imports fob			Terms of trade†
	Value	Volume Index	Unit Value Index	Value	Volume Index	Unit Value Index	
	£m.	1970 = 100		£m.	1970 = 100		1970 = 100
1964	4,486	73	77	5,005	78	81	95
1965	4,817	77	79	5,054	78	81	98
1966	5,184	80	82	5,257	79	83	100
1967	5,124	79	83	5,681	86	83	101
1968	6,274	89	90	6,933	94	93	97
1969	7,063	97	93	7,206	95	96	97
1970	7,893	100	100	7,902	100	100	100
1971	8,796	107	106	8,511	104	104	101
1972	9,134	107	111	9,811	117	109	102
1973*	11,435	119	126	13,810	132	139	90
1971 1st half	4,267	105	105	4,214	104	104	101
2nd half	4,529	108	108	4,297	104	106	102
1972 1st half	4,470	107	110	4,655	113	107	103
2nd half	4,664	107	115	5,156	120	114	101
1973 1st half	5,427	118	121	6,178	128	128	95
2nd half*	6,008	120	132	7,633	135	154	86

† Export Unit Value Index as percentage of the Import Unit Value Index.
* Provisional.

TABLE 3 Recorded values (Overseas trade statistics basis)

£ million

		Imports cif	
	Exports fob‡	Total	Excluding US military aircraft, etc
1964	4,565		5,696
1965	4,901		5,751
1966	5,255	5,949	5,947
1967	5,230	6,437	6,393
1968	6,434	7,897	7,752
1969	7,339	8,315	8,128
1970	8,061	9,037	9,015
1971	9,181	9,821	9,811
1972	9,746	11,138	11,138
1973	12,455		15,854
1971 1st half	4,405	4,922	4,915
2nd half	4,777	4,899	4,896
1972 1st half	4,844		5,449
2nd half	4,902		5,706
1973 1st half	5,902		7,291
2nd half	6,553		8,563

‡ No adjustment has been made in this table for special factors affecting the recording of exports.

IMPORTS

In 1973, the value of imports on a balance of payments basis was £13,810 million, an increase of 41 per cent compared with 1972. This was a marked acceleration from the 15 per cent increase in 1972 and primarily resulted from increased prices which in 1973 rose by 28 per cent compared with an increase of 5 per cent in 1972. The volume of imports was 13 per cent higher, a rate of increase only a little greater than the 12 per cent growth in 1972.

The value of imports grew strongly in both halves of last year. In the first half imports were 20 per cent higher than in the previous six months with the volume of imports rising by 7 per cent. The second half year saw a further increase of 24 per cent in the value of imports but with the volume increase being under 6 per cent. The slackening in the growth of volume was associated with a marked slowing in domestic activity; there was virtually no change in consumers' expenditure and private investment between the two halves, while the rate of stockbuilding fell. Despite the easing in the growth of volume, the value of imports grew strongly between the two halves of last year because of an acceleration in the rate of price increases which reflected the effects of some further depreciation of sterling, the

continuing increases in world commodity prices and the initial impact of the sharp rise in crude oil prices which took place in the last quarter of the year.

For 1973 as a whole the growth in the volume of imports was widespread except for imports of food, beverages and tobacco the volume of which increased by under 1 per cent and fuels by 3 per cent. Imports of industrial materials grew by 14 per cent in volume in the year as a whole due to the return to stockbuilding following two years of destocking and to the strong increase in manufacturing production between 1972 and 1973.

Imports of finished manufactured goods also increased in volume by 28 per cent, associated with higher levels of investment and consumers' expenditure.

In terms of value the increase in imports was widely spread. Imports of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 32 per cent between 1972 and 1973, almost entirely due to higher prices. Imports of industrial materials were 46 per cent higher while there was a rise of 48 per cent in imports of finished manufactures. Among the major sources of our imports, those from Western Europe increased by 48 per cent in 1973, the rise being evenly distributed between the EEC, EFTA and the rest of Western Europe. Imports from North America increased by 32 per cent as did imports from the Sterling Area outside Europe. Imports from the rest of the world in aggregate increased by 48 per cent.

AREA PATTERN OF EXPORTS

The changing pattern (*Changes in the area distribution of exports are illustrated at Table 6*)

In 1973, of the 50 per cent of exports sent to Western Europe, nearly two-thirds went to EEC countries and over one-quarter to EFTA. The decline in the Sterling Area countries' share of United Kingdom exports continued; it was 18 per cent in 1973 compared with 19 per cent in 1972 and 29 per cent in 1962. The fall was rather more marked in the developing than in the developed countries within the Sterling Area. The proportion of our exports to North America, which has shown a tendency to rise, albeit erratically, fell back in 1973. Deliveries to Latin America also fell slightly as proportion of total exports. Shipments to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe made up, at 3 per cent of total exports, much the same proportion as in 1972. The United States was the United Kingdom's largest single market in 1973 followed by West Germany, France, Irish Republic, and Belgium and Luxembourg.

Table 8 shows a run of annual figures for the following areas and countries and in addition gives figures for some other individual countries.

North America

Exports to North America at £1,936 million increased by 21 per cent in 1973, a sharp rise in exports to the United States being offset by slower growth in exports to Canada.

Shipments to the United States which were valued at £1,522 million grew by 25 per cent in the year as a whole, following an increase of 11 per cent in 1972. There was however an easing in the rate of growth of exports to the United States through 1973, shipments in the second half year being at the same rate as in the first. This slow down in exports was in line with the marked slackening in the growth of real gross domestic product in the United States in the latter half of 1973.

The UK maintained its share of the United States market last year, UK exports to the United States increasing in sterling terms at about the same rate as total US imports. The proportion of manufactured goods in United Kingdom exports to the United States, which was 80 per cent in 1970, continued to increase slowly in 1973 when it reached 85 per cent.

Exports of manufactured goods to the United States rose by 27 per cent in 1973. There was a rise of 17 per cent in shipments of chemicals while deliveries of other semi-manufactured goods increased by 41 per cent reflecting mostly a doubling in the value of exports of non-ferrous metals and a sharp rise in shipments of non-metallic mineral manufactures (almost entirely due to higher exports of diamonds). Exports of machinery and transport equipment were 24 per cent higher, with a similar increase in the exports of passenger cars, while shipments of other finished manufactures rose by 12 per cent.

Deliveries of non-manufactured goods to the United States rose by 18 per cent in 1973, a slow growth of 5 per cent in exports of beverages and tobacco being somewhat offset by a sharp rise in the exports of fuels and food.

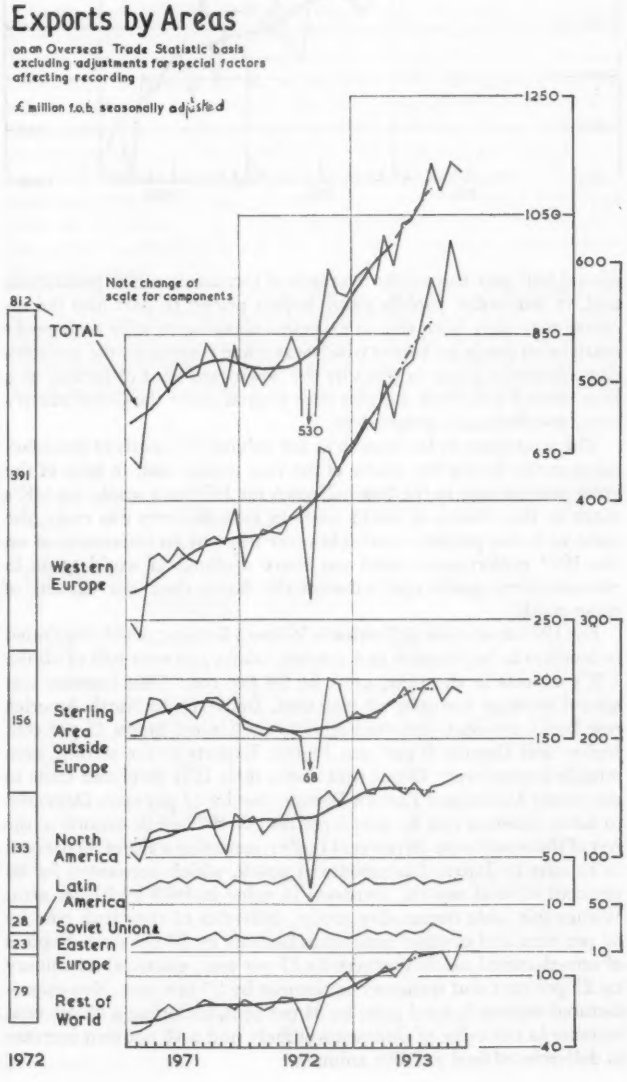
In the year as a whole exports to Canada at £414 million grew by only 9 per cent a good deal slower than the increase in the value of total Canadian imports which probably rose by around 25 per cent. As with the United States market, the increase in UK exports was also concentrated in the first half of the year.

Deliveries of manufactured goods, which accounted for 86 per cent of United Kingdom exports to Canada in 1973, rose by 8 per cent in the year. Within this broad category shipments of machinery rose by 15 per cent (with a strong rise in exports of electrical machinery) and exports of iron and steel were 14 per cent higher. Shipments of passenger cars however fell by 30 per cent between the two years.

UK exports of non-manufactures to Canada grew by 13 per cent in 1973. A large part of this rise was in shipments of crude materials, especially wool tops, which rose by 42 per cent. Exports of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 10 per cent in 1973 while there was a sharp fall in shipments of fuels.

Western Europe

The value of exports to Western Europe at £6,283 million were 34 per cent higher in 1973 compared with a rise of 12 per cent in 1972. Economic activity expanded rapidly in most Western European countries in 1973 and, while a slow-down in the rate of increase of gross domestic product is expected for many countries this year, the United Kingdom's membership of the EEC and the competitive edge given to UK exporters by the depreciation of sterling (more substantial against some of our major Western European trading partners than in the world as a whole) should help to continue to make Western



Europe an expanding market. In 1973 UK exports to nearly all Western European countries rose faster than in 1972. Exports to the enlarged EEC at £4,080 million rose by 37 per cent in 1973 spread evenly amongst virtually all markets. The exception was Belgium and Luxembourg where a large increase in exports of diamonds in 1973 contributed to a 58 per cent increase in our exports. Deliveries to the EFTA countries rose by 30 per cent in 1973. There was slow growth in the rate of increase of UK exports to Austria, but shipments to Switzerland rose by 42 per cent in the year, this figure again reflecting high exports of diamonds in the form of entrepot trade. Of the other Western European countries only exports to Spain and Turkey grew more slowly than in 1972.

Exports to Western Germany, the United Kingdom's largest market within the EEC, were valued at £785 million in 1973, 33 per cent higher than the previous year. There was a marked pick-up in GDP in the year and the rise in UK exports was slightly less fast than the rise in total German imports. The value of exports of manufactured goods to Western Germany rose from £469 million to £628 million, an increase of 34 per cent. Deliveries of chemicals were 44 per cent higher and there was a 47 per cent increase in shipments of metals. Exports of machinery and transport equipment rose rather more slowly by 27 per cent. Exports of non-manufactured goods to Western Germany increased from £101 million in 1972 to £135 million in 1973 a rise of 34 per cent. Within this sector, food exports were 59 per cent higher while exports of basic materials rose by 25 per cent. Deliveries of fuels rose by 61 per cent in 1973 following a fall of 10 per cent in 1972.

There was a sharp rise in French imports, in sterling terms, in 1973, not quite matched by the rise in UK exports to France in the year, which grew by 33 per cent and were valued at £678 million. Exports of manufactured goods rose rather more slowly than non-manufactured exports in 1973, and the proportion of manufactured goods in total exports to France fell from 82 per cent in 1972 to 80 per cent in 1973. Exports of manufactured goods in 1973 rose by 29 per cent, a 47 per cent increase in the value of exports of metals being offset by a 16 per cent increase in the value of exports of non-electrical machinery, which accounts for around one-third of all manufactured exports to France. Deliveries of non-manufactured goods rose by 54 per cent in the year. Exports of food were 67 per cent higher, with marked increases in exports of meat, dried milk and barley, perhaps partly reflecting the initial effects of our accession to the EEC. Shipments of basic materials also rose sharply, by 58 per cent. Exports to Belgium and Luxembourg last year were valued at £621 million. A major contributor to the increase of 58 per cent in UK exports to Belgium and Luxembourg in 1973 was the sharp rise in diamond exports in the year. If these are excluded the rise in UK exports was 40 per cent and the rise in manufactured exports was reduced from 59 per cent to 37 per cent. Within manufactures, there were increases of 55 per cent in shipments of both chemicals and metals. Deliveries of non-electrical machinery increased relatively less fast in 1973, rising by 23 per cent in the year. The value of shipments of non-manufactured goods in 1973 rose by 43 per cent. Above average increases in exports of fuels and food, were offset by slow growth in shipments of beverages and tobacco.

Apart from diamonds, the pattern of export growth to the Netherlands was much the same as that for Belgium and Luxembourg, although the rates of increase were a little different. Total UK exports to the Netherlands were valued at £604 million and rose by 34 per cent in the year, with an increase of 27 per cent in exports of manufactured goods. Within manufactures, exports of chemicals rose by 49 per cent and of metals by 38 per cent. Shipments of finished manufactures however rose rather more slowly by 19 per cent. Deliveries of non-manufactured goods to the Netherlands rose very strongly in 1973, by 77 per cent. This rise was due to shipments of food, fuels and animal and vegetable oils and fats more than doubling in value in 1973.

Despite the strikes in Italy in the first four months of 1973, GNP in the year as a whole probably grew at a very much faster pace than in 1972, at around 5 per cent similar to the average rate of the 1960s. UK exports to Italy at £386 million rose in total by 36 per cent in 1973. A rise of 37 per cent in exports of manufactured goods was led by semi-manufactures, deliveries of which increased in value by 52 per cent in 1973 with a rise of 41 per cent in shipments of chemicals and 55 per cent for other semi-manufactured goods (a major contributor being non-ferrous metals). Exports of finished manufactures were 27 per cent higher in 1973 than in 1972. Non-manufactured exports, which in 1973 comprised 18 per cent of our exports to Italy, rose in value by 30 per cent last year, around half of which reflected an increase of 43 per cent in deliveries of food, drink and tobacco and half a rise of 31 per cent in exports of basic materials.

With the pick-up in economic activity in Ireland, UK exports at £626 million rose by 33 per cent in 1973. Exports of manufactures, which at 74 per cent of total exports form a smaller proportion than to any other of our largest dozen markets, rose by 31 per cent in a year. Shipments of chemicals were 32 per cent higher, while deliveries of other semi-manufactured goods rose by 18 per cent, this low figure largely reflecting a further fall in exports of diamonds, perhaps partly due to the continued diversion of entrepot trade from Shannon to

TABLE 4 Exports: areas (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	Rates of growth per cent	1972		1973				
	Average 1963-73	1st half	2nd half	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Year
STERLING AREA OUTSIDE EUROPE	5	942	923	509	550	569	567	2,195
Australia	5	161	157	99	98	102	104	404
New Zealand	4	68	79	40	38	43	47	167
Republic of South Africa	6	155	153	83	94	95	102	374
WESTERN EUROPE	13	2,222	2,467	1,381	1,481	1,654	1,768	6,283
EEC	13	1,403	1,538	877	959	1,062	1,132	4,030
Western Germany	13	284	305	172	188	205	221	785
Netherlands	13	219	232	134	148	153	169	604
Belgium and Luxembourg	15	186	210	132	143	167	178	621
France	13	238	274	145	163	181	190	678
Italy	8	135	149	84	89	101	112	386
Irish Republic	15	235	234	142	150	158	175	626
Denmark	12	115	126	72	70	92	95	329
EFTA	14	640	707	391	411	452	492	1,746
Sweden	12	199	206	115	120	137	141	514
Switzerland	21	160	207	108	122	128	163	521
Norway	10	93	98	54	54	60	72	241
REST OF WESTERN EUROPE	12	197	204	121	126	129	131	507
NORTH AMERICA	13	792	807	483	483	473	496	1,936
USA and Dependencies	14	598	621	380	379	370	393	1,522
Canada	9	194	186	103	104	103	103	414
LATIN AMERICA	9	178	161	89	87	90	90	355
SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE	9	137	138	78	80	87	79	323
REST OF THE WORLD	13	469	479	287	320	358	353	1,318
Japan	18	82	89	58	63	72	79	273
TOTAL	11	4,759	4,986	2,836	3,015	3,252	3,352	12,455

Zurich. Exports of metals rose by 37 per cent. Amongst finished manufactures a £13 million increase in exports of ships contributed to a rise of 57 per cent in deliveries of transport equipment. Deliveries of non-manufactured goods increased by 47 per cent in 1973. Food, basic materials and fuels contributed approximately equally to this rise. Amongst basic materials there was a marked increase of over 90 per cent in exports of natural fibres.

Exports of non-manufactured goods to Denmark also increased in value more quickly than manufactured exports in 1973. 4/5ths of the 57 per cent increase in non-manufactured exports was due to higher shipments of fuel, the remainder being due to increased deliveries of food. In the manufacturing sector, UK exports of both chemicals and other semi-manufactured goods increased by 37 per cent, a rather faster rate than for finished goods as a whole which rose by 30 per cent, the same rate as deliveries of machinery and transport equipment. In total exports to Denmark at £331 million increased by 37 per cent last year.

Among the EFTA countries there was a rise of 42 per cent in exports to Switzerland, following an increase of 59 per cent in 1972. Both these rates of growth were however influenced by large increases in the exports of diamonds some of which are in the form of entrepot trade. If these are excluded exports increased by 15 per cent last year following an increase of 12 per cent in 1972. Exports of non-manufactures increased by 23 per cent last year with deliveries of food rising by 34 per cent. Exports of manufactures excluding precious stones grew by 15 per cent with chemicals 23 per cent higher. Shipments of metals however fell by 8 per cent as did deliveries of transport equipment. Exports of machinery rose in value by 14 per cent in 1973 while exports of other finished manufactures increased by 26 per cent. Exports to Sweden, the UK's second largest market, after Switzerland within EFTA, at £514 million grew by 27 per cent in 1973. Within this total exports of manufactures, which accounted for 78 per cent of all exports to Sweden, grew by 22 per cent. Exports of metals were 29 per cent higher, while shipments of machinery rose by 25 per cent. Deliveries of transport equipment were, however, only 7 per cent higher. Non-manufactured exports to Sweden increased in value by 51 per cent in 1973, mostly due to higher exports of fuels.

There was an increase of 22 per cent in exports to Finland, following a decline of 4 per cent in 1972. The value of exports of chemicals rose by 32 per cent, while deliveries of textiles were 25 per cent higher. Exports of transport equipment continued to fall however and in 1973 were 16 per cent lower than a year earlier.

Exports to Austria which had held up well in 1972, grew only relatively slowly, by 15 per cent in 1973. There was an increase of 21 per cent in exports of textiles, but shipments of transport equipment, which in 1972 had comprised about 1/5th of total UK exports to Austria, fell by 34 per cent. While exports to the other two major markets within EFTA (Norway and Portugal) grew at around the average rate for EFTA countries in aggregate, exports to Iceland increased by only 15 per cent.

There was a variable performance in exports to other Western European countries in 1973. Shipments to Greece, which had fallen by 6 per cent in 1972, grew by 47 per cent in a year while deliveries to Spain, our largest Western European market outside the EEC and EFTA, rose by only 14 per cent.

Sterling Area outside Europe

Exports to the Sterling Area outside Europe at £2,195 million grew by 18 per cent in 1973 following a fall of 11 per cent in 1972. The area as a whole continued, however, to decline in importance as a market for UK exports accounting for 18 per cent of total exports. This decline was especially marked among the developing countries, deliveries to which increased by 14 per cent in the year. Shipments to the developed Sterling Area outside Europe (which comprises Australia, New Zealand and the Republic of South Africa) rose by 22 per cent and were valued at £946 million.

Among these developed countries UK exports to South Africa at £374 million recovered somewhat from their sharp fall in 1972. although they were still lower in value than in 1971. Ninety-three per cent of these exports in 1973 were of manufactured goods which increased in value by 20 per cent in the year, slightly less than the 21 per cent rise in total exports. Deliveries of machinery, which make up around two-fifths of all manufactured exports to South Africa, increased by only 12 per cent in 1973 to £141 million, still some way below the £155 million exported in 1971. Shipments of passenger motor cars however showed a strong rise of 71 per cent. Within semi-manufactures exports of textiles were 46 per cent higher (following a fall of 29 per cent in 1972) and deliveries of plastics rose by 39 per cent. The value of exports of non-manufactured goods increased by 42 per cent in 1973 about half of which was due to higher shipments of food, beverages and tobacco and half to a rise in exports of crude materials.

Exports to Australia rose in total by 27 per cent in 1973 to £404 million, with exports of manufactured goods rising at the same rate. Shipments of semi-manufactures rose by 36 per cent, about two-fifths of which was due to higher deliveries of chemicals, and one-third to a 64 per cent increase in exports of textiles. Within finished manufactures, deliveries of machinery and transport equipment were 18 per cent higher while exports of other finished manufactured goods increased by 36 per cent. Non-manufactured exports to Australia rose by 29 per cent in 1973.

United Kingdom exports to New Zealand, which, unlike the other two countries in the developed Sterling Area had not fallen in 1972, rose rather more slowly in 1973, at 14 per cent, than deliveries to either Australia or South Africa. These figures were influenced however by high exports of ships in 1972. Manufactured exports (92 per cent of total) rose by 13 per cent in the year while semi-manufactured exports were 39 per cent higher. The reduction in the exports of ships in 1973 meant that deliveries of machinery and transport equipment, which makes up more than half of UK exports to New Zealand, fell by 1 per cent. Shipments of non-manufactured exports to New Zealand rose from £5 million in 1972 to £7 million in 1973.

Exports to India, one of the United Kingdom's important markets within the developing Sterling Area, at £133 million, fell by 6 per cent in 1973, with exports of manufactures 3 per cent lower. Within this category shipments of machinery rose by 16 per cent to £53 million while deliveries of transport equipment fell by 25 per cent. Exports of semi-manufactured goods also fell, by 9 per cent. There was a decrease of 15 per cent in the value of non-manufactured exports to £2 million.

Nigeria maintained its position in 1973 as the largest buyer of UK exports within the developing Sterling Area. Unusually, deliveries of manufactured goods rose at a rather faster rate than total exports, 15 per cent as opposed to 12 per cent. This increase was broadly spread amongst commodities although there was a rise of 29 per cent in shipments of transport equipment. Exports to Nigeria in 1973 were valued at £173 million.

Latin America

Exports to Latin America last year at £355 million continued to increase only slowly, although deliveries to the UK's main buyer, Brazil, increased by one-third. Manufactured exports to Brazil, 95 per cent of the total, were also 33 per cent higher at £106 million. Transport equipment, chemicals and iron and steel were the main contributors to this increase. Shipments to the Argentine, our second largest market in Latin America, fell by 19 per cent in 1973 to £42 million, largely due to a decrease of 43 per cent in exports of metals from £16 million to £9 million. Deliveries to Venezuela also fell last year, by 8 per cent, reductions of 25 per cent in exports of beverages and 36 per cent in non-electrical machinery being slightly offset by an increase of 50 per cent in deliveries of transport equipment.

Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

Exports to this area increased from £276 million to £323 million last year, a rise of 17 per cent. About three-quarters of this increase was due to higher shipments to Poland, which took over from the Soviet Union as the UK's largest market in this area. Exports of manufactured goods to Poland were 49 per cent higher with shipments of machinery rising by 61 per cent to £43 million, and metals by 55 per cent to £22 million. There was also an increase of 62 per cent in exports of textiles while, outside manufacturing, deliveries of textile fibres almost doubled. Exports to the Soviet Union again rose only slowly by 8 per cent in 1973 and were valued at £5 million less than in 1970. Shipments to Romania which had shown a marked increase in 1972 fell back last year mainly due to a 38 per cent drop in exports of machinery. Exports to Eastern Germany also fell in 1973 for the second successive year.

Rest of the World

The major markets relevant to UK exports in this category are Japan, Israel and Iran. Real GNP in Japan is estimated to have grown by around 11 per cent last year, equal to the average rate in the 1960s, and slightly faster than in 1972. Imports into Japan rose very

fast in 1973, by 28 per cent in volume and over 60 per cent in value. United Kingdom exports to Japan at £273 million rose sharply by 59 per cent in value terms in 1973. Deliveries of manufactured goods were 52 per cent higher, semi-manufactures rose particularly strongly by 66 per cent. Within this category shipments of textiles rose by 140 per cent to £30 million while exports of precious stones nearly doubled. There was also a virtual doubling in exports of non-manufactured goods, from £27 million in 1972 to nearly £54 million. Over two-fifths of this increase was due to higher deliveries of beverages (mainly whisky) which increased by 153 per cent in the year. Around half the remaining increase reflected a near trebling in exports of textile fibres.

Exports to Israel at £187 million were 39 per cent higher last year with manufactured goods 41 per cent higher. Diamond exports increased by 58 per cent from £65 million in 1972 to £103 million in 1973. Shipments of transport equipment also rose strongly by 56 per cent.

Deliveries to Iran rose by 45 per cent in 1973 to £169 million. Exports of manufactured goods rose by 31 per cent with semi-manufactures 22 per cent higher and deliveries of finished goods 34 per cent higher. Within finished manufactures, exports of machinery and transport equipment rose by 33 per cent.

COMMODITY PATTERN OF EXPORTS

Changes in the commodity distribution of exports are illustrated in Table 7.

The changing pattern

Exports of manufactured goods at £10,456 million accounted for 84 per cent of total exports in 1973, a slightly lower proportion than in the preceding two years. Within manufactures there was a decline in the share of total exports of engineering products from 44 per cent in 1972 to 41 per cent in 1973 while semi-manufactures increased from 34 per cent in 1972 to 36 per cent in 1973. Non-manufactured goods comprised 16 per cent of our exports in 1973, a slightly higher proportion than in 1972; within this category the share of fuels rose by half of 1 per cent to 3 per cent.

Manufactured goods (Tables 9 and 10)

In 1973 exports of manufactured goods rose by 27 per cent in value and 14 per cent in volume. Within this broad commodity group exports of machinery and transport equipment were 19 per cent higher in value terms at £4,775 million and 11 per cent in volume terms and reflected a recovery from 1972 when deliveries were sluggish. Deliveries of non-electric machinery rose by 17 per cent and aircraft engines by 26 per cent. Shipments of internal combustion

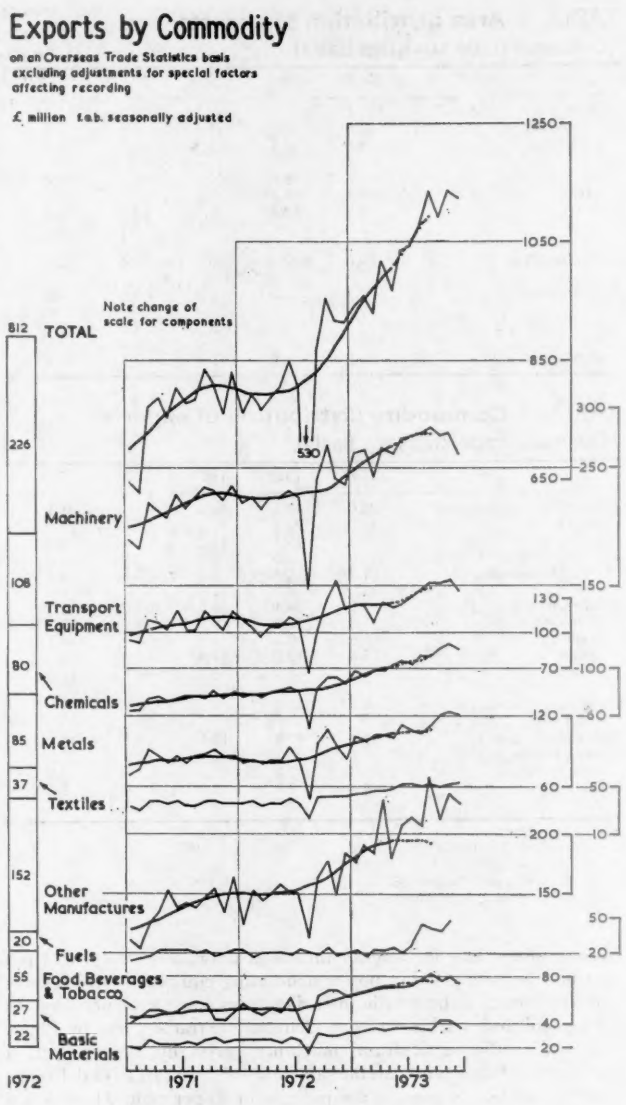


TABLE 5 Exports: commodity classes (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	Rates of growth per cent	1972		1973				
	Average 1963-73	1st half	2nd half	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Year
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	12	320	340	200	212	233	231	876
Food and live animals	13	162	184	109	123	140	140	512
Beverages and tobacco	11	158	156	90	89	93	92	364
BASIC MATERIALS	7	155	166	102	106	105	120	433
Crude materials	7	150	160	99	103	100	114	416
FUELS	8	117	121	65	67	114	124	370
MANUFACTURES	11	4,027	4,231	2,393	2,558	2,720	2,785	10,456
Machinery and transport equipment	10	1,966	2,048	1,117	1,179	1,248	1,231	4,775
Non-electric machinery	11	1,013	1,041	578	604	627	604	2,413
Electric machinery	10	322	339	190	197	209	211	807
Road motor vehicles	7	449	466	265	265	276	296	1,102
Other transport equipment	16	181	202	94	99	129	131	453
Chemicals	13	476	486	292	305	324	352	1,272
Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	11	497	518	307	317	326	360	1,310
Textiles	9	220	226	133	148	153	155	590
Other manufactures, classified chiefly by material	15	426	468	289	329	372	369	1,359
Clothing and footwear	15	93	83	51	53	55	57	215
Instruments	16	134	139	79	85	91	89	344
Other miscellaneous manufactured articles	14	234	242	136	145	151	159	591
MISCELLANEOUS	9	138	131	68	74	81	97	320
TOTAL	11	4,759	4,986	2,836	3,015	3,252	3,352	12,455

TABLE 6 Area distribution of exports (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Per cent

	1957	1962	1967	1972	1973
Sterling area o/s Europe	37.5	29.3	25.1	19.1	17.6
Developed	16.0	12.2	11.8	7.9	7.6
Developing	21.5	17.1	13.3	11.2	10.0
Western Europe	32.5	40.6	42.9	48.1	50.4
EEC	21.2	26.5	26.6	30.2	32.4
EFTA	8.8	10.7	12.3	13.8	14.0
Other	2.5	3.5	4.1	4.1	4.1
North America	13.8	14.3	16.5	16.4	15.5
Latin America	4.7	4.0	3.2	3.5	2.9
Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	2.2	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.6
Rest of the World	9.2	8.5	8.8	9.7	10.6

TABLE 7 Commodity distribution of exports (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Per cent

	1957	1962	1967	1972	1973
Engineering products (a)	39.0	43.2	43.9	44.0	41.1
Machinery	22.4	27.3	27.3	27.9	25.9
Road motor vehicles	8.8	11.2	10.0	9.4	8.8
Other transport equipment	6.6	3.0	4.1	3.9	3.6
Scientific instruments	1.2	1.6	2.5	2.8	2.8
Semi-manufactures (b)	36.9	34.1	34.2	34.0	36.4
Chemicals	7.8	8.6	9.6	9.9	10.2
Textiles	8.6	6.2	4.9	4.6	4.7
Metals	13.6	12.0	11.6	10.4	10.5
Other	7.0	7.4	8.1	9.2	10.9
Other manufactures (c)	4.4	4.8	5.7	6.7	6.5
Non-manufactures (d)	19.7	17.9	16.1	15.3	16.1
Food, beverages and tobacco	6.6	6.1	6.8	6.8	7.0
Basic materials	5.3	5.2	3.7	3.3	3.5
Fuels	4.4	3.6	2.5	2.4	3.0
Other	3.4	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.6

SITC (R):—Division.
(a) Sections 7 plus 86.
(b) Section 5 and 6.
(c) Section 8 less division 86.
(d) Sections 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9.

engines other than for aircraft increased only moderately at 8 per cent and exports of other power generating equipment which have had a tendency to be erratic in earlier years rose by 17 per cent. In the agricultural machinery sector deliveries of tractors rose by 12 per cent while other agricultural machinery grew by 29 per cent, a considerably faster rate than the previous two years. In 1973 deliveries of office machinery grew at a rapid rate of 40 per cent. There was a reversal of the fall in exports in 1972 in metal working machinery which rose by 3 per cent and machines for special industries by 9 per cent. Exports of textile and leather machinery rose by 15 per cent after very little growth in the previous year. The rate of increase in deliveries of heating and cooling equipment slackened and was 5 per cent higher in 1973. Shipments of mechanical handling equipment rose by 18 per cent after having fallen by 15 per cent in the previous year. There was strong growth of 22 per cent in exports of electrical machinery after an earlier year of little change. Within this commodity group, deliveries of electric power machinery rose by 13 per cent; switchgear by 11 per cent; and electric distribution equipment by 23 per cent. Shipments of television and radios continued to grow strongly last year and were 60 per cent higher; other telecommunications equipment increased by 11 per cent and deliveries of domestic electrical equipment rose by 20 per cent. Exports of transport equipment grew by 20 per cent in 1973 mainly reflecting an upturn in the deliveries of road motor vehicles which were also 20 per cent higher. Shipments of cars and commercial vehicles increased by 14 per cent and 22 per cent respectively. Deliveries of aircraft and ships and boats which generally have a high individual unit value can lead to considerable year to year variation; in 1973 these were 28 per cent and 9 per cent higher respectively.

Exports of chemicals increased last year by 32 per cent to £1,272 million in value and 21 per cent in volume following modest growth in the previous year, a rise that was distributed over a wide range of chemical products; deliveries of chemical elements and compounds increased by 43 per cent, dyeing, tanning and colouring materials by 33 per cent, medical and pharmaceutical products by 23 per cent, and plastic materials by 28 per cent. Deliveries of other semi-manufactures rose by 38 per cent last year following a very modest improvement of 5 per cent in 1972. Within this group shipments of leather and leather manufactures grew by 25 per cent, and rubber manufactures by 26 per cent. Exports of textiles increased at a faster rate than in the previous two years by 32 per cent in value and 14 per cent in volume. In the metals group which showed a 13 per cent increase in volume terms between 1972 and 1973, shipments of iron and steel and miscellaneous metal manufactures rose in value terms by 15 per cent and 17 per cent respectively, while non-ferrous metals increased sharply by 54 per cent. Exports of non-metallic mineral manufactures were 64 per cent higher, resulting mainly from higher deliveries of pearls, diamonds and other precious stones which rose by 75 per cent. In 1973 exports of clothing and footwear increased by 22 per cent and scientific instruments by 26 per cent while deliveries of printed matter were 14 per cent higher.

Non-manufactures (Table 13)

Exports of non-manufactured goods at £1,999 million rose by over 34 per cent in value and by over 13 per cent in volume last year, both rates of growth considerably higher than those of the previous year. Among food and live animals which rose by 48 per cent in the year there were increases in exports of live animals of 46 per cent, cereals and cereal preparations of 61 per cent and sugar and sugar preparations up 32 per cent. Deliveries of beverages and tobacco increased by 16 per cent with exports of whisky, which levelled off in 1972, rising by a modest 6 per cent and tobacco and tobacco manufactures by 21 per cent. Deliveries of crude materials increased 35 per cent with natural fibre exports contributing largely to the increase. Shipments of fuels rose by 55 per cent last year, with deliveries of both coal and petroleum products around 60 per cent higher.

TABLE 8 Exports by areas and countries (Overseas trade statistics basis)§

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	1971		1972		1973	
STERLING AREA outside Europe						
Developed countries						
Australia	365.0	*6*	317.9	*–13*	404.1	*27*
New Zealand	146.1	*13*	146.6	*—*	167.3	*14*
Republic of South Africa	395.0	*19*	308.3	*–22*	374.4	*21*
Developing countries						
Cyprus	29.1	*12*	32.7	*12*	40.4	*24*
Jamaica	43.2	*13*	41.5	*– 4*	43.5	*5*
Trinidad	33.9	*20*	36.0	*6*	32.9	*– 9*
India	138.4	*90*	140.9	*2*	132.9	*– 6*
Pakistan	50.4	*2*	35.5	*–30*	34.3	*– 3*
Sri Lanka	15.9	*–14*	11.9	*–25*	10.2	*–15*
Malaysia	64.7	*7*	62.2	*– 4*	78.1	*26*
Singapore	73.1	*17*	77.3	*6*	100.6	*30*
Hong Kong	104.3	*5*	101.0	*– 3*	126.9	*26*
Sierra Leone	12.7	*1*	10.4	*–18*	12.7	*23*
Ghana	44.6	*17*	16.5	*–63*	30.4	*85*
Nigeria	165.0	*44*	153.9	*– 7*	172.7	*12*
South West Africa	1.7	*–12*	1.0	*–40*	1.0	*–46*
Zambia	49.3	*30*	46.1	*– 6*	41.0	*–11*
Tanzania	23.7	*21*	17.4	*–26*	21.8	*25*
Kenya	65.5	*24*	55.5	*–15*	60.9	*10*
Mauritius	8.3	*42*	8.1	*– 3*	10.5	*30*
Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Trucial States	102.3	*10*	94.7	*– 7*	129.3	*36*
Other countries	157.4	*20*	149.8	*– 5*	169.2	*13*
TOTAL STERLING AREA outside Europe	2,089.5	*18*	1,865.2	*–11*	2,195.1	*18*
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	349.0	*21*	379.8	*9*	413.8	*9*
United States and Dependencies	1,095.5	*16*	1,219.4	*11*	1,521.8	*25*
TOTAL NORTH AMERICA	1,444.4	*17*	1,599.3	*11*	1,935.6	*21*
WESTERN EUROPE						
Finland	142.5	*11*	137.2	*– 4*	167.8	*22*
Sweden	383.3	*5*	404.9	*6*	514.3	*27*
Norway (including Spitzbergen)	177.1	*2*	190.2	*7*	240.9	*27*
Iceland	12.0	*29*	13.4	*12*	15.4	*15*
Switzerland and Liechtenstein	231.7	*11*	367.4	*59*	520.9	*42*
Portugal, Azores and Madeira	106.0	*20*	114.0	*8*	150.3	*32*
Austria	106.3	*17*	119.4	*12*	136.7	*15*
EFTA	1,158.9	*9*	1,346.5	*16*	1,746.2	*30*

TABLE 8 *continued*

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	1971		1972		1973	
Western Germany	534.3	*6*	589.1	*10*	785.2	*33*
Netherlands	409.4	*9*	451.4	*10*	603.6	*34*
Belgium and Luxembourg	339.8	*16*	394.9	*16*	620.7	*57*
France	393.5	*16*	511.5	*30*	678.3	*33*
Italy	249.2	*4*	283.9	*14*	386.1	*36*
Denmark, Faroe Islands and Greenland	232.7	*5*	240.6	*3*	330.6	*37*
Irish Republic	501.2	*31*	469.4	*– 6*	625.7	*33*
EEC	2,660.1	*13*	2,940.8	*11*	4,030.2	*37*
Greece	72.0	*26*	67.6	*– 6*	99.2	*47*
Turkey	38.6	*7*	60.1	*56*	81.8	*36*
Yugoslavia	62.0	*36*	43.1	*–31*	56.2	*31*
Spain, Canaries and Spanish ports in North Africa	168.5	*18*	200.5	*19*	228.2	*14*
Gibraltar	7.1	*23*	7.5	*6*	8.5	*13*
Malta	23.0	*–10*	20.3	*–12*	25.0	*23*
Other	1.4		2.9		7.9	
TOTAL WESTERN EUROPE	4,191.4	*12*	4,689.2	*12*	6,283.2	*34*
SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE						
Soviet Union	88.8	*–13*	90.3	*2*	97.4	*8*
Poland	64.4	*7*	75.4	*17*	111.2	*47*
Eastern Germany	17.3	*1*	15.0	*–13*	13.7	*– 9*
Hungary	20.8	*10*	22.9	*10*	26.5	*15*
Czechoslovakia	20.2	*– 1*	23.7	*18*	27.2	*15*
Romania	31.2	*7*	38.7	*24*	34.2	*–12*
Other countries	10.5	*– 6*	9.4	*–10*	13.2	*40*
TOTAL SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE	253.1	*– 2*	275.6	*9*	323.3	*17*
LATIN AMERICA						
Cuba	26.4	*28*	16.7	*–37*	17.5	*5*
Mexico	30.8	*–10*	37.9	*23*	39.7	*5*
Colombia	15.5	*20*	17.1	*10*	15.5	*–10*
Venezuela	36.5	*8*	42.7	*17*	39.2	*– 8*
Peru	16.0	*61*	13.3	*–16*	14.2	*6*
Brazil	84.3	*38*	84.1	*—*	111.8	*33*
Chile	22.6	*10*	24.1	*6*	16.8	*–30*
Bolivia	1.8	*–20*	1.8	*4*	2.2	*21*
Uruguay	7.5	*18*	4.6	*–39*	4.6	*—*
Argentine Republic	53.5	*21*	51.4	*– 4*	41.7	*–19*
Other countries	42.6	*12*	44.9	*5*	52.2	*16*
TOTAL LATIN AMERICA	337.5	*19*	338.6	*—*	355.4	*5*
REST OF THE WORLD						
Netherlands Dependencies	11.1	*– 2*	10.1	*– 9*	13.1	*30*
Portuguese Dependencies	35.8	*27*	30.3	*–15*	39.9	*32*
Iraq	24.8	*4*	26.8	*8*	27.1	*1*
Iran	78.5	*19*	116.9	*49*	169.4	*45*
Israel	117.0	*22*	134.5	*15*	187.2	*39*
Arab Republic of Egypt (*formerly* UAR)	20.2	*9*	18.4	*– 9*	27.1	*47*
Saudi Arabia	39.0	*10*	45.2	*16*	58.5	*29*
Sudan	17.7	*– 3*	23.1	*31*	26.9	*17*
Libya	31.0	*27*	46.3	*50*	61.1	*32*
Algeria	27.8	*66*	33.8	*21*	37.9	*12*
Morocco	12.8	*1*	13.3	*4*	16.2	*22*
Republic of Zaire (*formerly* Congo (Kinshasa))	18.1	50	13.7	*–24*	11.6	*–16*
Thailand	32.1	*—*	27.9	*–13*	36.1	*29*
China	28.3	*–36*	31.6	*12*	84.8	*168*
Japan	156.5	*6*	171.5	*10*	272.6	*59*
Philippines	28.5	*14*	20.2	*–29*	29.1	*44*
Other countries	151.3	*14*	184.2	*22*	219.5	*19*
TOTAL REST OF THE WORLD	830.5	*11*	947.8	*14*	1,318.1	*39*
TOTAL NON-STERLING AREA	6,513.6	*12*	7,339.8	*13*	9,541.0	*30*
LOW VALUE ITEMS‡	34.9		30.1		44.5	
TOTAL ALL COUNTRIES	9,181.4	*14*	9,745.8	*6*	12,455.1	*28*

§ No adjustment has been made in this table for special factors affecting the recording of exports.

‡ Items valued at less than £50 (raised to £100 with effect from 1 September 1973) have not been allocated to specific countries and areas.

TABLE 9 Exports: machinery and transport equipment (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	1971		1972		1973	
MACHINERY OTHER THAN ELECTRIC	1,944.7	*18*	2,054.2	*6*	2,413.0	*17*
Aircraft engines	140.8	*23*	191.6	*36*	241.2	*26*
Internal combustion engines other than aircraft	180.4	*13*	204.4	*13*	221.5	*8*
Other power generating equipment	78.8	*37*	80.1	*2*	93.9	*17*
Tractors	137.0	*15*	145.8	*6*	163.5	*12*
Other agricultural machinery	38.8	*–5*	45.1	*16*	58.1	*29*
Office machines	179.5	*18*	203.6	*13*	284.8	*40*
Metal working machinery	120.5	*12*	113.4	*–6*	116.4	*3*
Textile leather machinery	164.2	*12*	169.5	*3*	194.3	*15*
Machines for special industries	257.3	*17*	251.9	*–2*	273.7	*9*
Heating and cooling equipment	60.0	*27*	69.3	*15*	73.0	*5*
Pumps, centrifuges, etc.	105.6	*23*	115.5	*9*	136.2	*18*
Mechanical handling equipment	107.9	*29*	91.9	*–15*	108.4	*18*
Other	373.8	*22*	372.2	*–1*	448.1	*20*
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY	648.1	*12*	661.9	*2*	807.3	*22*
Electric power machinery	92.6	*24*	94.3	*2*	106.2	*13*
Switchgear	69.4	*25*	68.6	*–1*	76.3	*11*
Electric distribution equipment	57.3	*10*	52.4	*–9*	64.7	*23*
Televisions, radios	11.5	*4*	15.4	*34*	24.6	*60*
Other telecommunications equipment	146.5	*15*	137.8	*–6*	152.5	*11*
Domestic electric equipment	50.3	*10*	52.5	*4*	63.2	*20*
Other electrical machinery	220.4	*3*	240.8	*9*	319.8	*33*
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	1,278.5	*18*	1,298.1	*2*	1,554.8	*20*
Road motor vehicles	988.0	*18*	914.9	*–7*	1,101.7	*20*
Cars and chassis	371.1	*13*	330.6	*–11*	376.6	*14*
Commercial vehicles and chassis	240.7	*24*	188.6	*–22*	230.3	*22*
Aircraft and parts	162.3	*22*	192.7	*19*	246.7	*28*
Ships and boats	65.4	*7*	113.7	*74*	123.7	*9*
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	3,871.2	*17*	4,014.2	*4*	4,775.1	*19*

TABLE 10 Exports: other manufactures (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	1971		1972		1973	
CHEMICALS	884.0	*13*	961.8	*9*	1,272.4	*32*
Chemical elements and compounds	231.5	*10*	254.6	*10*	364.5	*43*
Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	88.6	*9*	106.0	*20*	140.5	*33*
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	168.4	*21*	180.8	*7*	221.2	*23*
Essential oils, toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	72.2	*8*	77.3	*7*	96.9	*25*
Fertilisers	3.6	*–24*	7.0	*92*	14.8	*111*
Plastic materials	159.9	*12*	176.4	*10*	225.2	*28*
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	2,232.2	*12*	2,354.6	*5*	3,258.5	*38*
Leather, leather manufactures, etc.	54.7	*8*	67.0	*22*	83.8	*25*
Rubber manufactures	103.6	*12*	96.4	*– 7*	121.2	*26*
Wood and cork manufactures, etc.	11.8	*5*	11.4	*– 3*	15.5	*36*
Paper	97.5	*9*	101.7	*4*	128.7	*27*
Textile manufactures	425.6	*7*	445.3	*5*	589.6	*32*
Wool yarn and woven fabrics	86.0	*– 8*	94.2	*9*	128.4	*36*
Cotton yarns and woven fabrics	38.7	*3*	40.6	*5*	56.4	*39*
Man-made fibre yarns and woven fabrics	121.5	*11*	132.2	*9*	178.4	*35*
Miscellaneous textile manufactures	179.4	*15*	178.4	*– 1*	226.3	*27*
Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	534.4	*37*	617.7	*16*	1,010.0	*64*
Pottery and glass	81.0	*14*	85.3	*5*	107.8	*26*
Pearls, diamonds and other precious stones	387.7	*48*	464.6	*20*	812.9	*75*
Iron and steel	402.8	*16*	376.4	*– 7*	433.0	*15*
Non-ferrous metals	297.2	*–15*	348.3	*17*	537.8	*54*
Miscellaneous metal manufactures	304.5	*17*	290.4	*– 5*	338.9	*17*
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	837.1	*14*	926.5	*11*	1,149.9	*24*
Clothing and footwear	165.8	*5*	176.6	*7*	215.1	*22*
Scientific instruments	253.3	*21*	273.6	*8*	343.8	*26*
Printed matter	104.0	*16*	119.9	*15*	136.9	*14*

TABLE 11 Exports: other exports (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	1971		1972		1973	
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	281.0	*13*	345.6	*23*	512.1	*48*
Live animals	25.6	*−21*	40.4	*57*	58.8	*46*
Cereals and cereal preparations	38.4	*14*	33.9	*−12*	54.6	*61*
Sugar and sugar preparations	37.4	*22*	46.5	*24*	61.5	*32*
BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	306.6	*16*	314.3	*3*	363.5	*16*
Whisky	226.9	*17*	227.7	*—*	242.4	*6*
Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	42.8	*7*	48.0	*12*	58.1	*21*
CRUDE MATERIALS AND ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	278.4	*2*	321.1	*15*	433.4	*35*
Wool tops	16.3	*−20*	19.8	*22*	38.1	*92*
Other textile fibres	71.0	*− 7*	88.3	*24*	134.0	*52*
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	236.3	*14*	238.6	*1*	370.0	*55*
Coal, coke and briquettes	22.3	*−23*	17.0	*−24*	26.7	*57*
Petroleum products	189.2	*17*	184.5	*− 2*	296.6	*61*

THE CHANGING PATTERN OF OUR IMPORTS

Changes in the commodity distribution of imports are shown at Table 17.

In broad terms changes in the commodity distribution of imports followed the same trends as in the recent past. The sharp price rise of crude oil came too late to make any appreciable difference to the distribution of imports among the different commodities for the year as a whole. The emphasis last year was again on industrial materials, which together with fuels accounted for about half of our total imports in 1973 as they have in recent years. Both raw materials and chemicals and other partly finished goods included in this category continued to increase their share of total imports while there was a further fall in the share of our imports accounted for by food, beverages and tobacco, continuing the long term decline in this category of imports: in 1973 their share of total imports was 20 per cent compared with 36 per cent in 1957. The continuing trend away from imports of primary products to semi-manufactures and to finished goods reflects the growth in our own economy requiring capital goods for investment and the increase in consumer demand.

Table 18 refers to the area distribution of imports.

Imports from Western Europe last year accounted for 50 per cent of our total imports from all areas compared with 28 per cent in 1957. This increase in the share from this area throughout the last decade or so reflects the growing importance of semi-manufactured and finished manufactured goods in our total imports. Last year the European Community accounted for some 33 per cent of total imports almost double the share held in 1957, whilst imports from the

TABLE 13 Volume of exports

1970 = 100

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Total	78	78	88	98	100	109	111	127
Non-manufactures	78	85	90	92	100	104	110	124
Manufactured goods	78	77	88	99	100	110	112	128
Chemicals	72	76	86	95	100	110	118	143
Textiles	74	71	83	92	100	106	111	127
Metals	81	83	92	97	100	107	108	123
Machinery and transport equipment	82	77	88	100	100	108	106	117
Other	74	75	87	103	100	119	128	148

TABLE 14 Unit value of exports

1970 = 100

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Total	83	84	91	94	100	106	111	125
Non-manufactures	91	88	93	98	100	107	114	139
Manufactured goods	82	83	90	93	100	105	111	124
Chemicals	84	84	90	93	100	102	104	114
Textiles	87	88	91	96	100	102	104	123
Metals	77	78	85	90	100	99	100	115
Machinery and transport equipment	81	84	91	93	100	110	118	125
Other	82	84	92	95	100	102	107	125

TABLE 15 Unit value of imports

1970 = 100

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Total	82	83	93	95	100	105	109	140
Food, beverages and tobacco	86	87	90	94	100	107	114	150
Basic materials	83	80	88	94	100	102	106	141
Mineral fuels, lubricants etc.	86	94	109	102	100	122	123	164
Manufactured goods	79	80	92	95	100	101	104	126

TABLE 16 Volume of imports

1970 = 100

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Total	79	85	94	95	100	105	116	133
Food, beverages and tobacco	98	101	104	100	100	100	102	103
Basic materials	92	92	100	98	100	91	93	104
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.	76	82	87	93	100	109	109	112
Manufactured goods	68	76	89	94	100	110	131	159

TABLE 17 Commodity distribution of imports (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Per cent

	1957	1962	1967	1972	1973
Food, beverages and tobacco	35.7	33.9	27.4	21.2	19.5
Industrial materials	46.1	40.6	40.6	38.5	39.4
Basic materials	28.1	20.0	15.7	11.9	12.4
Manufactures chiefly for further processing	18.0	20.6	24.8	26.6	27.0
Mineral fuels and lubricants	11.3	11.5	11.3	11.1	10.9
Finished manufactures	6.5	13.0	19.3	28.1	29.2
Miscellaneous	0.5	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.0

TABLE 12 Analysis of increase in exports between 1972 and 1973 by area and commodity (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million fob

	All commodities		Non-manufactures		Manufactures									
					Total		Semi-manufactures		Engineering products				Other manufactures	
									Total		Machinery		Transport equipment	
World	2,709.3	*27.8*	510.6	*34.3*	2,198.7	*26.6*	1,214.5	*36.6*	831.0	*19.4*	504.2	*18.6*	256.7	*19.8*	153.2	*23.5*
Sterling Area (outside Europe)	329.8	*17.7*	27.4	*13.8*	302.4	*18.1*	149.5	*26.1*	124.1	*12.8*	73.7	*12.0*	38.6	*12.2*	28.8	*23.7*
Developed	172.9	*22.4*	19.7	*32.9*	153.2	*21.5*	76.7	*34.1*	61.3	*14.1*	38.8	*14.3*	14.2	*10.0*	15.3	*28.9*
Developing	156.9	*14.4*	7.7	*5.5*	149.2	*15.7*	72.8	*21.0*	62.8	*11.7*	34.8	*10.1*	24.4	*14.0*	13.5	*19.7*
Western Europe	1,594.0	*34.0*	349.2	*42.4*	1,244.8	*32.2*	715.2	*42.3*	440.0	*23.5*	270.3	*23.1*	124.7	*22.3*	89.7	*29.9*
EEC	1,089.3	*37.0*	252.4	*44.4*	836.9	*35.3*	454.2	*45.7*	321.5	*26.9*	189.1	*25.2*	105.0	*30.3*	61.2	*32.9*
EFTA	399.7	*29.7*	71.9	*38.8*	327.7	*28.2*	233.8	*40.9*	71.6	*14.6*	52.3	*18.3*	5.3	*3.3*	22.4	*22.2*
Other	105.0	*26.1*	24.9	*35.8*	80.1	*24.1*	27.2	*21.2*	46.9	*24.4*	28.9	*21.9*	14.4	*29.7*	6.1	*49.6*
North America	336.4	*21.0*	41.3	*16.6*	295.1	*21.8*	146.6	*29.2*	128.8	*19.1*	88.5	*21.7*	37.5	*17.3*	19.6	*11.3*
Latin America	16.8	*5.0*	−0.5	*−1.3*	17.3	*5.8*	17.4	*17.5*	—	—	−12.2	*−8.6*	10.3	*22.7*	−0.1	*−1.5*
Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	47.7	*17.3*	6.4	*19.4*	41.3	*17.0*	25.7	*22.6*	15.3	*12.6*	13.8	*13.2*	−0.1	*−1.6*	0.4	*5.1*
Rest of the World	370.3	*39.1*	72.4	*62.2*	297.8	*35.8*	160.2	*47.6*	122.8	*27.2*	70.2	*25.3*	45.6	*29.5*	14.9	*34.8*

TABLE 18 Area distribution of imports
(Overseas trade statistics basis)

Per cent

	1957	1962	1967	1972	1973
Sterling area outside Europe	34.9	30.4	22.7	19.1	17.8
Developed	13.5	10.9	9.0	7.4	6.4
Developing	21.4	19.5	13.7	11.7	11.4
Western Europe	28.4	33.4	40.0	48.1	50.0
EEC	17.7	22.1	26.5	31.6	32.8
EFTA	8.8	8.8	11.4	14.5	15.0
Other	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.2
North America	19.6	18.1	19.7	16.0	14.9
Latin America	8.4	6.4	4.5	3.0	3.0
Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	2.7	3.6	3.9	3.5	3.5
Rest of World	6.1	8.0	9.1	10.1	10.7

EFTA countries (also doubling) accounted for about 15 per cent. This increase has been at the expense of North America, the Sterling Area and Latin America. Imports from North America declined as a proportion of total imports from 20 per cent in 1957 to 15 per cent last year. The decrease of Sterling Area's share mainly reflects the continuing decline in the share of food imports from the developed Sterling Area. There was little change last year in the share of imports from either Latin America or the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe though over the years Latin America's share has fallen considerably (from 8 per cent to 3 per cent since 1957) while that from Eastern Europe has generally increased though only to 3½ per cent.

COMMODITY PATTERN OF IMPORTS

Food, beverages and tobacco (Table 21)

There was a 31 per cent increase in imports of food, beverages and tobacco last year, almost entirely resulting from higher prices; the volume of imports was only marginally higher than in 1972. Increased world demand together with bad harvests and drought conditions affected the prices of the world's food supply last year. Wheat, cereals, feeding stuffs and meat were particularly affected and consequently world prices of all these commodities were raised substantially. This together with the increase in sterling prices associated with the floating of the pound contributed to the steep rise in many import prices. In value imports of food, beverages and tobacco reached £3,098 million last year, some £742 million more than in 1972; 80 per cent of this increase was in imports of food and live animals, which forms the largest category in the group by value. There were, however, sharp rises in the other two categories (beverages and tobacco) comprising this group. Imports of beverages were nearly three-quarters as much again as in 1972 while tobacco imports rose 27 per cent.

Among imports of food and live animals, there were sharp rises in imports of cereals, feeding stuffs for animals, fish, sugar, cocoa beans

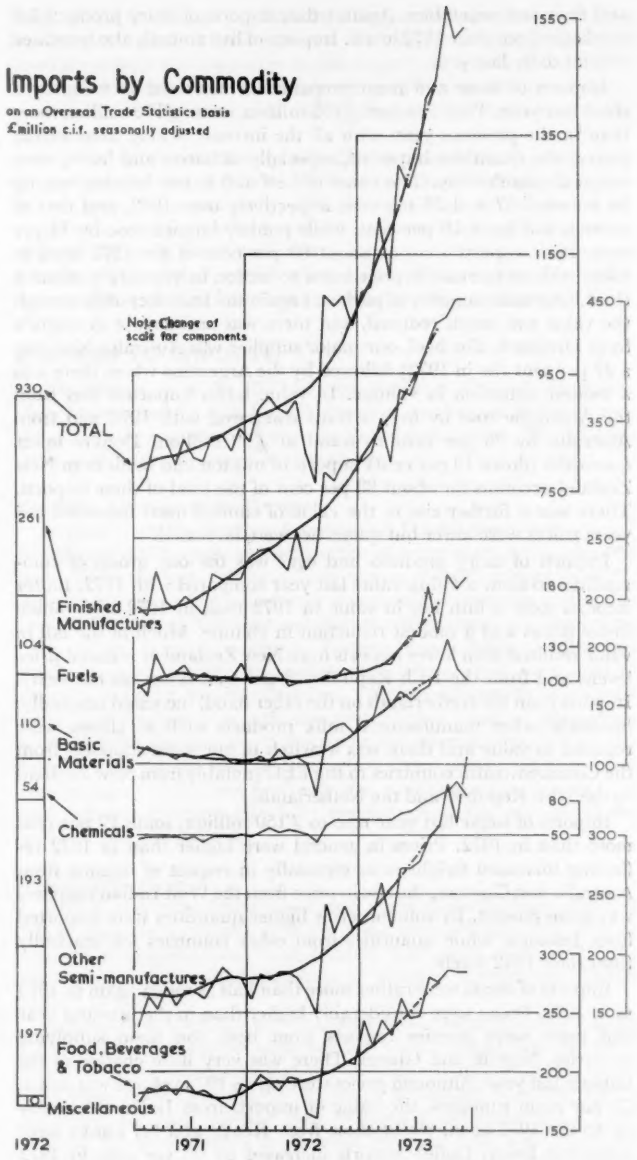


TABLE 19 Imports: commodity classes (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values

£ million ci

	Rates of growth per cent	1972		1973				
	Average 1963-73	1st half	2nd half	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Year
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	6	1,150	1,206	700	739	804	854	3,098
Food and live animals	6	1,019	1,081	609	651	704	750	2,714
Meat and meat preparations	9	253	287	176	189	166	186	716
Dairy products and eggs	2	144	111	65	63	51	47	225
Cereals and animal feeding stuff	6	156	186	119	115	155	135	524
Fruit and vegetables	7	205	224	126	127	137	174	564
Beverages and tobacco	10	130	125	91	88	101	104	384
Beverages	16	64	70	53	54	59	63	230
Tobacco	4	68	54	38	36	41	39	154
FUELS	12	620	621	333	381	458	556	1,727
INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS	12	2,018	2,268	1,341	1,430	1,629	1,845	6,246
Basic materials	7	630	693	439	462	508	556	1,965
Crude materials	7	584	650	416	434	473	511	1,835
Oilseeds, oilnuts and oil kernels	7	22	29	23	24	32	24	104
Wood, lumber and cork	10	123	131	104	99	116	140	459
Wool and other animal hair and tops	1	44	66	46	46	46	43	181
Animal and vegetable oils and fats	11	46	43	23	28	34	45	130
Chemicals	16	314	337	188	201	240	269	897
Other semi-manufactures	15	1,073	1,238	714	767	882	1,020	3,383
FINISHED MANUFACTURES	22	1,429	1,700	993	1,064	1,235	1,341	4,633
MISCELLANEOUS	10	70	58	31	32	41	46	151
TOTAL	12	5,304	5,834	3,390	3 679	4,163	4,622	15,854

and fruit and vegetables. Against this, imports of dairy products fell markedly from their 1972 levels. Imports of live animals also increased substantially last year.

Imports of meat and meat preparations increased in value by a third last year. They reached £716 million, some £170 million more than in the previous year, with all the increase arising from higher prices; the quantities imported, especially of bacon and lamb, were reduced considerably. The value of beef and bacon imports was up by between 37 and 38 per cent respectively over 1972, and that of mutton and lamb 19 per cent, while poultry imports rose by 11 per cent. Pork imports were at about 60 per cent of the 1972 level in value with an increase in price but a reduction in quantity to about a third. Our main supplier of pork was again the Irish Republic though the value was much reduced, and there was an increase in imports from Denmark. For beef, our major supplier was Australia (showing a 27 per cent rise in 1972) followed by the Argentine where there was a modest reduction in volume. In value terms imported beef from the Argentine rose by over a third compared with 1972 and from Australia by 76 per cent to stand at £59 million. Despite lower quantities (down 19 per cent) imports of mutton and lamb from New Zealand accounts for about 88 per cent of the total of these imports. There was a further rise in the value of canned meat imported last year; prices were lower but quantities were increased.

Imports of dairy products and eggs was the one group of commodities to show a fall in value last year compared with 1972. Butter imports were a fifth less in value in 1973 than in 1972 with much lower prices and a modest reduction in volume. Much of the fall in value resulted from lower imports from New Zealand at reduced price levels, and from the Irish Republic (5 per cent down on the year). Imports from the Netherlands on the other hand, increased markedly. Similarly other manufactured milk products such as cheese were reduced in value and there was a switch in our main suppliers from the Commonwealth countries to the EEC (notably from New Zealand to the Irish Republic and the Netherlands).

Imports of sugar last year rose to £150 million, some 19 per cent more than in 1972. Prices in general were higher than in 1972 reflecting increased freight rates especially in respect of imports from Australia and Guyana; the rise in price from the West Indian suppliers was more modest. In volume terms higher quantities were imported from Jamaica, while quantities from other countries fell markedly from their 1972 levels.

Imports of cocoa were rather more than half as much again in 1973 as in 1972. Prices were considerably higher than in the previous year and there were heavier imports from both the main supplying countries, Nigeria and Ghana. There was very little change in tea imports last year. Although prices were up on 1972 volume was down. Of our main suppliers, the value of imports from India was nearly up to the 1972 level, whilst those from Kenya and Sri Lanka were somewhat lower. Coffee imports increased by 63 per cent in 1973 with higher prices accounting for much of the rise: imports from Brazil more than doubled in value. There was a rise of nearly a third in value in imports of fruit and vegetables, almost entirely due to price rises.

Imports of cereals and feeding stuffs rose markedly last year, after showing a decline in the recent past. Shortages due to bad harvests accentuated by extra demand led to inflated prices, and the value of this group of imports rose to £524 million, some 53 per cent higher than in 1972. The value of wheat imports rose 36 per cent last year with increases in price ranging between 30 and 65 per cent. Despite the price increases, a drop in the quantities shipped resulted in falls of 8 and 45 per cent respectively in the value of imports from the United States and Australia. Increased tonnages shipped from Canada and France saw the value of imports rise by 70 and 10 per cent respectively. Maize imports also increased last year. They rose 72 per cent in value with higher imports from the United States (up 64 per cent) and from the Netherlands (nearly doubled).

Barley imports were much reduced in value last year despite higher prices, as there was a fall in volume of about 40 per cent. Imports from both Canada and Australia fell sharply.

There was strong growth in imports of beverages last year. They were valued at £230 million, some £96 million more than in the previous year.

Tobacco imports also showed a substantial increase last year. At £154 million they were 27 per cent higher than in 1972, with markedly higher imports from India and the United States: imports from Canada were a little lower.

Minerals, fuels and lubricants

Fuel imports were high in value again last year. There was renewed growth following a pause in 1972, largely reflecting higher oil prices. Fuel imports reached £1,727 million, 39 per cent more than in 1972 with the increase in price accounting for roughly £400 million of the increase of £485 million. The price of crude petroleum, the largest part of this group, increased from an average of £9 a ton cif in 1972 to £11½ a ton cif in 1973; it was only towards the end of the year that our import prices began to be affected by the sharp rise in producer prices announced in October. The rise in crude oil prices together with an increase in volume led to a rise in value of 41 per cent, accounting for over 80 per cent of the total increase in fuel imports. Against this large rise in oil imports there was a reduction in the value of coal imports.

Industrial materials

There was very strong growth in imports of industrial materials last year. They rose to £6,246 million, 46 per cent more than in 1972. Imports of basic materials rose somewhat faster than imports of semi-manufactures (48 per cent against 44 per cent). A large part of the rise in the year was attributable to higher prices – higher volume accounted for around a third of the increase. The additional cost of these imports was in part due to the effect on sterling prices of the floating of the pound, but some shortages in supply leading to rapidly rising world prices had a greater influence.

Basic materials

The value of basic materials last year was £1,965 million, £642 million more than in the previous year with price rises accounting for more than two-thirds of this increase. The increase in the volume of imports accompanied the increase in manufacturing output, and a resumption of stock-building. The largest part of this group, imports of crude materials, were valued at £1,835 million nearly half as much again in value as in 1972. About a third of the increase in crude materials last year was in imports of timber, while imports of metalliferous ores and scrap (especially iron ore) also contributed significantly to the rise in value.

Timber imports, largely resulting from an increase in the value of imported sawn softwood, were £459 million, 81 per cent higher last year than in 1972, an extremely high rate of growth after the modest rises of recent years. Despite a lower volume of arrivals, raw wool imports increased in value last year at the same high rate (65 per cent) as in 1972 after declining in value for some years prior to this. The rise in price reflected droughts in Australia and shortages elsewhere. Imports of raw cotton were also affected by a rise in price; with the quantities arriving up by a quarter, the rise in value amounted to over 50 per cent or £21 million last year. The large increase of 37 per cent in metalliferous ores scrap was largely in imports of iron ore and silver and platinum ore. Among other non-ferrous metal ores imports of nickel matte were much reduced in quantity and value in 1973 and tin ore imports were also sharply lower. Imports of other metal ores such as lead, zinc, manganese and titanium rose sharply. Prices were higher generally, though the import price of nickel matte fell. The expansion in imports of hides and skins continued last year, with imports rising by a third in value. Crude rubber imports continued their rise of 1972 after falling back in 1970 and 1971.

Semi-manufactures

Imports of semi-manufactures rose to £4,281 million in 1973, some 44 per cent higher than in 1972. This growth was much stronger than that recorded in 1972 (16 per cent). Price rises in 1972 accounted for about one-third of the increase but in 1973 the situation was reversed and prices accounted for about two-thirds and volume one-third of the rise in value. Both the categories comprising this group, imports of chemicals and imports of partly processed goods increased strongly last year, though the rate for the latter was faster than that for chemicals (46 per cent and 38 per cent respectively). But of the £1,317 million total increase in these imports last year, £1,071 million arose from the increase in goods other than chemicals. The widespread price rises, especially of non-ferrous metals, newsprint and paper, together with high imports of pearls, diamonds and precious stones, and widespread increases throughout the whole range of partly processed goods, accounted for the exceptionally strong rise in value terms of this category of imports.

Last year imports of chemicals were £897 million, 38 per cent more than in 1972. Of the £246 million increase, imports of chemical

elements and compounds contributed just under 40 per cent. Imports of medicinal and pharmaceutical products and of essential oils and perfumes were over half as much again as in 1972, and imports of plastic materials (the second largest category) were 40 per cent higher.

Imports of partly processed goods reached £3,383 million last year, £1,071 million more than in the previous year. Higher imports of pearls, diamonds and other precious stones accounted for about a quarter of this rise. The other commodities were influenced by the price rises caused mainly by increased world demand, and some supply shortages. The value of wood manufactures imported increased by just under three-quarters while there was strong growth (ranging between 30 and 40 per cent) in imports of newsprint, paper, cotton yarns and other textile manufactures. Among non-ferrous metals, the value of copper imports rose sharply, the price rising to over one and a half times the 1972 average. The value of imports from Zambia and Canada rose substantially despite lower volumes while imports from Chile and Western Germany were much higher both in value and in quantities imported. Copper accounted for about two-thirds of the total increase in imports of non-ferrous metals. Aluminium imports recovered in 1973 after the decline in recent years, with higher imports from Norway partly offset by a fall in imports from Canada. Nickel imports rose again after declining in 1972. With higher prices they were more than a third higher than a year earlier despite lower imports from Canada, our main supplier.

Finished manufactures (Table 25)

There was very strong growth in imports of finished manufactures last year. At £4,633 million in 1973, they were £1,503 million more than in 1972, a rise of 48 per cent. Three-fifths of the increase was due to higher volume, and some of the price increases would have resulted from the effect on sterling prices of the depreciation of the pound. The increase in capital expenditure at home led to a substantial increase in imports of capital goods, especially of machinery. Capital goods last year accounted for about 60 per cent of the rise in imports of finished manufactures, and machinery imports accounted for about 70 per cent of the rise in capital goods. However, the rise in imports of consumer goods (reflecting the growth of consumers' expenditure) was faster in percentage terms than that of capital goods (54 per cent against 45 per cent), and in 1973 the share of imported finished manufactures accounted for by consumer goods had reached 38 per cent from about a quarter in 1969.

Imports of capital goods rose to £2,891 million, 45 per cent more in 1973 than in 1972. £621 million of the increase of £895 million increase in the year was in imports of machinery but there were rises in most other capital goods, including ships, aircraft and instruments. Both imports of electrical and non-electric machinery were higher in 1973, and the increase was widespread over all types of machinery. Imports of aircraft vary considerably from year to year, but last year there was a marked increase over 1972. Ships and boats being large expensive items, form another erratic import series. There was a large increase (57 per cent) in those recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics. In addition ships built in foreign yards and delivered abroad amounted to £337 million in 1973 (an increase of £10 million on 1972) – the main suppliers were again Western Europe and Japan.

The value of imports of consumer goods was £1,742 million last year compared with £1,134 million in the previous year, a rise of 54 per cent, with the larger part of the rise (more than 60 per cent) coming in durable goods. Of the increase in these durable goods about a third was in imports of cars and motor cycles (especially from France, Western Germany and Japan): the rate of increase of these imports last year slowed to 35 per cent from 88 per cent in the previous year. Other durable goods showed a very sharp rise of nearly 80 per cent.

Imports of radio and television sets more than doubled in value with much heavier imports of television sets from Japan, Western Germany and Austria. The value from each of these countries was around three times their 1972 value. Imports of radio sets from Japan doubled in value.

Imports of domestic refrigerators were 52 per cent higher than in 1972 with a large part of the rise coming from Italy. Imports of domestic washing machines followed a similar pattern but the growth in the year was even stronger than for refrigerators, while imports of other domestic electrical equipment were nearly doubled. Imports of photographic apparatus and equipment showed a marked rise in the year, with higher values of cameras imported especially from the EEC (West Germany in particular). Imports of sound reproducing equipment including gramophones and tape recorders reached a level more than three-quarters as much again as the value in 1972.

Other durables to increase markedly in 1973 were domestic sewing machines, furniture, watches and clocks, musical instruments and jewellery.

Imports of non-durable goods also rose substantially last year. Imports of clothing and footwear were exceptionally high, rising by 49 per cent compared with 1972. Hong Kong, one of our main suppliers of clothing, showed marked increases in all types of clothing imports last year. Footwear imports from most sources continued to rise in value. Other goods of a non-durable nature also which increased last year included toys, stationery and travel goods.

SOURCES OF IMPORTS

The enlargement of the EEC last year to include Denmark, Greenland, Faroes Islands and the Irish Republic as well as ourselves will have made some difference to the comparisons of trade within the various areas. The following tables of imports take account of these changes.

Sterling Area outside Europe

Imports from the Sterling Area outside Europe were up by a third in value in 1973 compared with a rise of 6 per cent in the previous year. They reached £2,822 million against £2,133 million in 1972. There were marked increases from almost all the countries within this area. Imports from Trinidad and Pakistan were among the exceptions from where imports declined. Imports from South Africa and Australia grew strongly. Price rises, especially of food, accounted in part for much of the rise in value. The rate of growth of imports from New Zealand was little changed. Higher value of oil imports accounted for the increase of a third in the value of imports from the Persian Gulf states last year. Imports from almost all the other developing countries rose markedly, the world price rise in most food and primary products especially non-ferrous metals accounting for much of this rise in value.

Western Europe

Half of our total imports last year came from Western Europe. There was a strong growth of 48 per cent compared with 1972. Higher imports of manufactures, both finished and partly processed, from the highly industrialised countries of Western Europe contributed largely to this rise.

Imports from the EEC, EFTA and from the rest of Western Europe all increased at about the same rate last year. Imports from the other members of the enlarged European Community to the United Kingdom were more than double the value of imports from the EFTA countries. In total imports from Western Europe reached £7,920 million. About a third of the increase from the EEC was in imports from Western Germany, but there were marked rises in imports from all member countries. From Western Germany, the increase was widespread over most commodities, though nearly half the increase was in imports of machinery and transport equipment. Of other commodities, imports of partly processed goods doubled, with very high imports of iron and steel and non-ferrous metals standing out among the widespread increase in this category. From the Netherlands, there were high imports of manufactures in 1973 as well as much higher values of food imports of all kinds (mainly accounted for by higher prices). From France, the position was roughly similar; most manufactured imports rose markedly but wheat imports more than doubled in value (to reach £48 million) and imports of beverages nearly doubled. The rise in imports from Belgium and Luxembourg was widespread although most was in manufactured goods. Imports from Italy increased in the year over a wide range of commodities. Imports from the two other new member countries, Denmark and the Irish Republic, rose 38 and 18 per cent respectively. There were considerable increases in imports from each of the EFTA countries last year with timber, paper and wood pulp playing a large part.

North America

Imports from North America grew strongly last year again after some easing back in the previous two years, and have now reached a peak level of £2,358 million, a rise of nearly a third over 1972. Imports from the United States rose much faster than those from Canada (38 per cent against 22 per cent). In 1973 about three-quarters of the rise in imports from the United States was in manufactured goods

TABLE 20 Imports: areas (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

	Rates of growth per cent	1972		1973				
	Average 1963-73	1st half	2nd half	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Year
STERLING AREA OUTSIDE EUROPE	6	1,027	1,106	611	665	701	845	2,822
Australia	5	126	157	90	88	80	83	341
New Zealand	5	127	124	72	76	67	61	276
Republic of South Africa	9	187	155	90	102	85	122	400
India	1	53	60	33	41	41	34	149
WESTERN EUROPE	17	2,542	2,817	1,660	1,829	2,142	2,290	7,920
EEC	17	1,679	1,842	1,081	1,223	1,400	1,494	5,197
Western Germany	20	388	453	284	312	374	381	1,351
Netherlands	16	303	311	194	219	248	251	912
Belgium and Luxembourg	16	145	170	89	105	120	129	442
France	20	276	327	197	232	262	288	980
Italy	16	161	192	97	114	134	159	504
Irish Republic	13	233	211	116	129	123	159	527
Denmark	11	167	183	105	118	121	133	478
EFTA	18	751	868	503	529	663	676	2,371
Sweden	16	241	271	167	164	209	200	740
Norway	16	110	108	66	77	86	97	325
Finland	13	121	126	80	65	90	98	332
Other	12	108	111	71	77	97	107	352
NORTH AMERICA	10	864	919	543	540	591	684	2,358
USA and dependencies	12	558	621	367	375	414	467	1,622
Canada	7	303	302	176	160	184	216	736
LATIN AMERICA	5	160	169	107	115	126	134	482
SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE	12	185	203	136	121	141	152	550
REST OF WORLD	15	521	606	336	407	457	499	1,699
Japan	23	135	180	97	113	124	109	443
TOTAL	12	5,304	5,834	3,390	3,679	4,163	4,622	15,854

but there were also widespread increases among non-manufactures. Among the imports of semi-manufactures from the United States to rise last year were some chemicals, especially chemical elements and plastic materials, imports of paper, textiles and metal manufactures. All finished manufactures increased with that of machinery instruments being markedly higher. In non-manufactures, with much higher prices and an increase in volume, maize imports were more than a third higher in value than in 1972; tobacco imports rose, as did a wide range of crude materials including metal scrap. Imports from Canada increased in all types of manufactured goods except chemicals (which fell slightly). There were also rises in food imports and raw materials.

Latin America

The value of imports from Latin America in 1973 was nearly half as much again as in 1972 when they had recovered somewhat from the decline of the two previous years. High world prices of meat, coffee and some ores affected the values of imports from this area in 1973. With the exception of Colombia, imports from most of the South American countries increased last year. Just over half the increase was in imports from Brazil, where rises were recorded in imports of coffee (doubled in value), meat, sugar and iron ore. Other large increases came from Argentina especially in beef and from Chile reflecting the rise in copper prices.

Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

Imports from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe continue to expand. In 1973 they were exceptionally high reaching £550 million, some 42 per cent higher than in the previous year. Imports from the Soviet Union itself accounted for most of the rise, and for most of the imports, but there were marked increases from all the countries within this area.

Rest of the World

Last year imports from the remaining non-sterling countries, which include some of the major oil producers and Japan, were half as much again in value as in 1972. Imports from Iran nearly doubled in value, from Saudi Arabia were up by 75 per cent, and from Libya rose by 14 per cent. The rise in imports from Japan was not so high as in the two previous years but still substantial at 41 per cent. The biggest increase was in imports of machinery and transport equipment with imports of electrical machinery more than doubled in value, and transport equipment greatly increased in value. Among other goods to increase were television sets (which doubled in value), radio and some miscellaneous consumer goods.

Notes

1(a) Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in Table 1 of this article. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage, either to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) or to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair). The adjustment of imports to a balance of payments basis excludes the values of deliveries of US military aircraft (including spares and some missiles) but includes the payments for those imports which are mainly being financed by a special US Exim Bank credit. (The values involved are now small.) All those adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual

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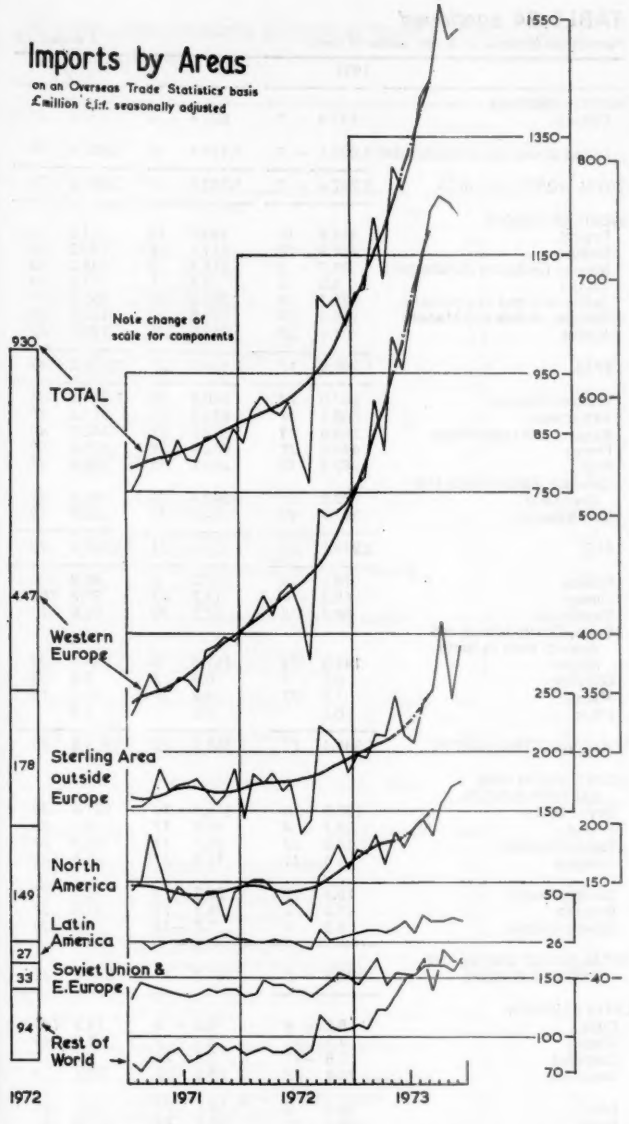

TABLE 21 Imports: food, beverages and tobacco (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million cif

	1971		1972		1973	
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	1,967.6	*6*	2,100.6	*7*	2,714.0	*29*
Live animals	71.3	*26*	72.0	*1*	80.2	*11*
Meat and meat preparations	464.9	*6*	540.1	*16*	715.9	*33*
Beef and veal	105.0	*12*	141.9	*35*	195.6	*38*
Th. tons	249	*– 5*	273	*10*	266	*– 3*
Mutton and lamb	92.8	*8*	105.1	*13*	124.7	*19*
Th. tons	347	*7*	326	*– 6*	261	*–20*
Bacon	128.7	*– 5*	138.0	*7*	189.6	*37*
Th. tons	369	*– 2*	345	*– 7*	315	*– 9*
Dairy products and eggs	238.7	*29*	255.4	*7*	225.4	*–12*
Butter	162.4	*29*	170.5	*5*	137.1	*–20*
Th. tons	384	*– 4*	350	*– 9*	333	*– 5*
Fish and fish preparations	83.4	*12*	96.4	*16*	132.2	*37*
Raw sugars	100.4	*6*	125.7	*25*	149.5	*19*
Th. tons	1,911	*6*	2,025	*6*	1,997	*–1*
Cocoa beans	23.0	*–17*	26.3	*14*	37.5	*42*
Th. tons	84	*4*	109	*30*	93	*–14*
Tea and mate	94.9	*– 9*	82.2	*–13*	82.9	*1*
Th. tons	223	*–10*	209	*– 6*	208	*—*
Cereals and feeding stuff for animals	363.3	*– 1*	341.5	*– 6*	523.7	*53*
Fruit and vegetables	391.4	*4*	429.2	*10*	563.7	*31*
BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	208.2	*10*	255.2	*23*	383.6	*50*
Beverages	99.3	*26*	133.7	*35*	229.8	*72*
Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	108.9	*– 1*	121.5	*12*	153.8	*27*

Pink Book, *United Kingdom Balance of Payments* 1973 and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated 4 November 1970.

1(b) The adjustments described at Note 1(a) are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports, and cannot be estimated for the area and commodity analysis of trade. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in Tables 4, 5, 19 and 20, are available only on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis. Whereas comment on total trade relates to total exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analysis of the area and commodity patterns of trade in this article are based on the figures on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

1(c) Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in Note 1(a) above.

1(d) Recording of exports. The new system for the documentation of exports to ensure their full recording has applied to goods shipped from 25 October 1971 (see *Trade and Industry* 19 August 1971).

Regular assessments of the quality of recording under the new system have shown that, since the beginning of 1972, there has been no need to make adjustments to the export figures for either a shortfall in documentation or a change in the speed of submission of documents.

The new system for recording exports and the methods used to

TABLE 22 Imports: materials and fuels (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million cif

	1971		1972		1973	
CRUDE MATERIALS	1,161.6	*–8*	1,233.7	*6*	1,835.4	*49*
Oil seeds, oil nuts and oil kernels	38.1	*– 9*	51.2	*35*	104.0	*103*
Wood, lumber and cork	244.8	*3*	253.5	*4*	458.7	*81*
Sawn softwood	196.9	*4*	203.5	*3*	354.4	*74*
Th. cub. metres	7,957	*—*	8,152	*2*	9,768	*20*
Woodpulp	161.4	*–18*	171.6	*6*	201.5	*17*
Th. metric tons	2,404	*–24*	2,615	*9*	2,608	*– 0*
Wool and other animal hair and tops	63.8	*–31*	109.7	*72*	181.0	*65*
Raw wool	54.3	*–31*	89.4	*65*	147.3	*65*
Th. metric tons	161	*–22*	208	*30*	151	*–27*
Raw cotton	40.9	*– 6*	44.0	*8*	66.6	*51*
Th. tons	140	*–15*	135	*– 4*	168	*24*
Metalliferous ores and scrap	316.8	*– 9*	284.1	*–10*	389.5	*37*
Iron ore	107.8	*2*	108.0	*—*	152.0	*41*
Th. metric tons	17,744	*–12*	17,721	*—*	23,156	*31*
Hides and skins	73.9	*5*	85.1	*15*	112.5	*32*
Crude rubber	52.8	*– 8*	47.5	*–10*	74.9	*58*
ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	108.9	*8*	89.4	*–18*	129.5	*45*
CHEMICALS	568.7	*5*	651.4	*15*	897.3	*38*
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	2.003.1	*2*	2,311.8	*15*	3.383.3	*46*
Wood manufactures	113.9	*5*	141.9	*25*	244.2	*72*
Newsprint, paper and board	256 6	*11*	311.4	*21*	402.3	*29*
Cotton yarns and fabrics	78.6	*27*	84.0	*7*	115.3	*37*
Other textile manufactures	246.4	*27*	285.7	*16*	399.6	*40*
Pearls, diamonds and other precious stones	398.5	*26*	487.7	*22*	750.7	*54*
Iron and steel	206.5	*– 7*	252.1	*22*	373.8	*48*
Th. metric tons	2,491	*– 8*	3,192	*28*	3,308	*4*
Non-ferrous metals	460.4	*–24*	446.6	*– 3*	659.9	*48*
Silver bullion	21.6	*–42*	10.6	*–51*	23.5	*121*
Copper	187.4	*–34*	207.1	*11*	339.6	*64*
Th. metric tons	412	*–11*	471	*14*	507	*8*
Aluminium	101.0	*–22*	96.7	*– 4*	113.2	*17*
TOTAL INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS†	3,842.3	*– 1*	4,286.3	*12*	6,245.6	*46*
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	1,246.6	*32*	1,241.6	*—*	1,727.3	*39*
Petroleum, crude and partly refined	955.7	*34*	947.0	*– 1*	1,337.8	*41*
Th. tons	107,639	*6*	105,346	*– 2*	114,594	*9*
Petroleum products	218.8	*7*	207.4	*– 5*	330.7	*59*
Th. tons	19,050	*– 4*	19,056	*—*	19,380	*2*
Coal, coke and briquettes	47.3		59.3		29.1	*–49*

† Crude materials, animal and vegetable oils and fats, chemicals and manufactured goods classified chiefly by material.

monitor its accuracy were described in an article in *Trade and Industry* 15 February 1973.

1(e) Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipments of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

1(f) Area analyses of trade. The area definitions are those ruling in 1973.

2 Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for 1973 were published in the *Overseas Trade Statistics* of the United Kingdom for December 1973. (Published by HMSO price £1.85 annual subscription £25.05.)

TABLE 23 Imports: finished manufactures (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million ci

	1971		1972		1973	
CONSUMER GOODS†	758.8	*42*	1,133.9	*49*	1,742.1	*54*
Cars and motor cycles	181.3	*101*	340.6	*88*	461.3	*35*
Other durable goods	198.6	*37*	324.4	*63*	580.2	*79*
Works of art	56.1	*3*	77.7	*39*	125.4	*61*
Clothing and footwear	232.8	*37*	281.2	*21*	417.9	*49*
Other consumer goods	90.0	*19*	110.0	*22*	157.3	*43*
OTHER MAINLY CAPITAL GOODS	1,672.6	*9*	1,996.2	*19*	2,890.9	*45*
Machinery	1,116.9	*2*	1,319.0	*18*	1,940.2	*47*
Aircraft and aircraft engines	213.2	*40*	225.4	*6*	319.3	*42*
Ships and boats	40.8	*29*	57.2	*40*	89.8	*57*
Instruments	110.6	*14*	122.5	*11*	170.2	*39*
Other	191.1	*16*	272.0	*42*	371.4	*37*
TOTAL FINISHED MANUFACTURES‡	2,431.4	*17*	3,130.1	*29*	4,633.0	*48*

† Goods covered by headings in the overseas trade statistics believed to include mainly consumer goods.
‡ SITC (Revised) Sections 7 and 8.

TABLE 24 Imports by areas and countries (Overseas trade statistics basis)

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million cif

	1971		1972		1973	
STERLING AREA OUTSIDE EUROPE						
Developed countries						
Australia	276.8	*6*	283.1	*2*	340.8	*20*
New Zealand	227.5	*12*	251.6	*11*	276.2	*10*
Republic of South Africa	241.1	*– 7*	291.6	*21*	399.5	*37*
Developing countries						
Cyprus	22.8	*12*	21.7	*– 5*	28.6	*32*
Jamaica	34.5	*26*	38.6	*12*	44.7	*16*
Trinidad	20.5	*6*	19.5	*– 5*	16.3	*–17*
India	111.2	*6*	112.2	*1*	148.6	*33*
Pakistan	33.8	*– 4*	34.8	*3*	31.0	*–11*
Sri Lanka	29.3	*–20*	22.3	*–24*	23.0	*3*
Malaysia	42.8	*– 8*	46.6	*9*	94.8	*104*
Singapore	37.5	*12*	39.5	*5*	85.4	*116*
Hong Kong	164.8	*28*	184.7	*12*	263.4	*43*
Sierra Leone	26.9	*–14*	29.2	*8*	40.1	*38*
Ghana	32.2	*–17*	33.1	*3*	48.7	*47*
Nigeria	139.5	*12*	155.5	*12*	206.8	*33*
South West Africa	23.3	*–10*	25.3	*8*	32.6	*29*
Zambia	56.8	*–44*	60.4	*6*	80.1	*33*
Tanzania	24.7	*3*	22.3	*–10*	30.3	*36*
Kenya	30.1	*11*	29.0	*– 4*	38.7	*34*
Mauritius	17.3	*–22*	27.0	*56*	28.3	*5*
Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Trucial States	288.7	*26*	277.6	*– 4*	367.6	*32*
Other countries	134.4	*1*	127.3	*– 5*	196.4	*54*
TOTAL STERLING AREA OUTSIDE EUROPE	2,016.5	*11*	2,132.9	*6*	2,822.2	*32*

TABLE 24 *continued*

Percentage increase on a year earlier in italics — £ million cif

	1971		1972		1973	
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	637.3	*– 7*	604.4	*– 5*	735.6	*22*
United States and Dependencies	1,095.1	*– 7*	1,179.4	*8*	1,622.0	*38*
TOTAL NORTH AMERICA	1,732.4	*– 7*	1,783.8	*3*	2,357.6	*32*
WESTERN EUROPE						
Finland	214.9	*10*	246.3	*15*	331.6	*35*
Sweden	406.9	*10*	512.1	*26*	740.0	*44*
Norway (including Spitzbergen)	201.7	*2*	218.4	*8*	325.2	*49*
Iceland	9.3	*3*	9.3	*1*	13.9	*49*
Switzerland and Liechtenstein	225.3	*14*	368.9	*64*	591.6	*60*
Portugal, Azores and Madeira	106.9	*24*	126.5	*18*	190.3	*50*
Austria	101.6	*28*	128.1	*26*	178.2	*39*
EFTA	1,266.6	*11*	1,609.7	*27*	2,370.8	*47*
Western Germany	647.0	*18*	840.6	*30*	1,351.2	*61*
Netherlands	508.1	*11*	614.3	*21*	917.7	*48*
Belgium and Luxembourg	223.6	*13*	314.8	*41*	442.1	*40*
France	444.9	*21*	603.4	*36*	979.6	*62*
Italy	282.2	*13*	353.1	*25*	504.4	*43*
Denmark, Faroe Islands and Greenland	303.0	*10*	349.7	*15*	481.5	*38*
Irish Republic	507.2	*49*	444.7	*–12*	526.6	*18*
EEC	2,916.1	*20*	3,520.6	*21*	5,197.1	*48*
Greece	16.1	*–18*	17.3	*8*	46.8	*170*
Turkey	15.0	*– 4*	16.9	*13*	33.9	*100*
Yugoslavia	18.4	*–15*	22.1	*20*	24.5	*11*
Spain, Canary Islands and Spanish Ports in North Africa	149.0	*19*	161.8	*9*	233.5	*44*
Gibraltar	0.6	*– 8*	0.6	*– 5*	0.8	*26*
Malta	7.3	*27*	9.5	*29*	11.2	*18*
Other	0.3		0.5		1.3	
TOTAL WESTERN EUROPE	4,389.4	*17*	5,358.9	*22*	7,919.8	*48*
SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE						
Soviet Union	199.5	*– 5*	218.6	*10*	331.4	*52*
Poland	59.7	*– 4*	70.6	*18*	95.1	*35*
Eastern Germany	19.6	*22*	21.7	*11*	26.3	*21*
Hungary	9.4	*–13*	11.8	*27*	16.8	*42*
Czechoslovakia	25.9	*10*	32.3	*24*	39.1	*21*
Romania	21.2	*– 9*	25.3	*19*	31.8	*26*
Other countries	8.2	*– 1*	7.0	*–15*	9.4	*35*
TOTAL SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE	343.5	*– 3*	387.2	*13*	549.9	*42*
LATIN AMERICA						
Cuba	5.5	*– 4*	5.0	*– 8*	13.3	*163*
Mexico	7.1	*12*	6.9	*– 3*	10.3	*49*
Colombia	5.6	*–37*	9.8	*73*	9.7	*– 1*
Venezuela	75.9	*49*	56.8	*–25*	58.8	*4*
Peru	16.4	*8*	14.1	*–14*	19.1	*36*
Brazil	69.7	*11*	86.1	*24*	157.4	*83*
Chile	48.6	*–25*	36.0	*–26*	57.3	*59*
Bolivia	16.1	*–43*	17.0	*6*	20.0	*17*
Uruguay	6.6	*–23*	6.3	*– 5*	10.2	*61*
Argentine Republic	57.0	*–13*	76.5	*34*	106.1	*39*
Other countries	8.6	*– 1*	14.4	*67*	20.0	*39*
TOTAL LATIN AMERICA	317.1	*– 3*	328.9	*4*	482.1	*47*
REST OF THE WORLD						
Netherlands Dependencies	17.1	*23*	11.6	*–32*	18.3	*58*
Portuguese Dependencies	10.2	*–31*	19.4	*90*	27.0	*39*
Iraq	36.8	*96*	34.1	*– 7*	30.7	*–10*
Iran	109.5	*44*	124.2	*13*	237.4	*91*
Israel	53.7	*20*	56.8	*6*	69.9	*23*
Arab Republic of Egypt (*formerly* UAR)	15.8	*46*	12.4	*–21*	23.7	*91*
Saudi Arabia	174.0	*66*	183.7	*6*	322 2	*75*
Sudan	6.5	*–14*	5.2	*–20*	8.4	*61*
Algeria	17.0	*–20*	22.4	*32*	45.7	*104*
Libya	191.6	*15*	144.3	*–25*	164.5	*14*
Morocco	15.6	*– 4*	16.2	*4*	23.1	*43*
Republic of Zaire (*formerly* Congo (Kinshasa)	19.1	*1*	20.7	*9*	22.2	*7*
Thailand	6.7	*22*	7.3	*9*	11.7	*59*
China	31.6	*– 6*	35.5	*12*	47.8	*35*
Japan	201.5	*50*	315.0	*56*	443.4	*41*
Philippines	5.9	*–22*	5.3	*–11*	9.8	*86*
Other countries	89.8	*5*	113.6	*27*	193.1	*70*
TOTAL REST OF THE WORLD	1,002.4	*28*	1,127.7	*12*	1,699.0	*51*
TOTAL NON-STERLING AREA	7,260.4	*8*	8,522.5	*17*	12,455.9	*46*
LOW VALUE ITEMS‡	19.8		18.9		23.9	
TOTAL ALL COUNTRIES	9,821.1	*9*	11,138.3	*13*	15,854.4	*42*

‡ Items valued at less than £50 (revised to £100 with effect from 1st September, 1973) have not been allocated to specific countries and areas.

Exports and imports (Overseas trade statistics basis)
Recorded values
Quarters

£ million

Section or Division		Exports				Imports			
		1st quarter 1973	2nd quarter 1973	3rd quarter 1973	4th quarter 1973	1st quarter 1973	2nd quarter 1973	3rd quarter 1973	4th quarter 1973
0. FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	Total	107.9	117.5	130.6	156.2	670.9	665.0	649.4	728.7
00 Live animals		9.0	12.5	11.2	26.1	16.8	15.1	17.4	30.9
01 Meat and meat preparations		15.5	19.2	22.8	22.5	180.5	189.8	162.9	182.8
02 Dairy products and eggs		9.5	12.9	11.8	10.1	82.3	55.5	37.7	49.9
03 Fish and fish preparations		9.4	9.3	9.7	14.8	25.7	22.4	29.3	54.7
04 Cereals and cereal preparations		10.9	10.2	15.6	17.9	89.1	83.3	100.4	96.8
05 Fruit and vegetables		10.8	9.7	7.8	15.0	141.3	155.4	118.1	149.0
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey		15.4	14.6	16.9	14.6	39.9	41.5	52.1	41.5
07 Coffee, cocoa and preparations, tea and spices		14.7	14.0	14.8	17.9	53.5	60.1	67.6	67.5
08 Feeding stuffs for animals		5.6	5.9	10.4	7.7	32.4	30.5	51.2	40.0
09 Miscellaneous		7.2	9.1	9.6	9.7	9.5	11.5	12.6	15.6
1. BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	Total	75.3	89.8	89.7	108.7	74.5	81.5	97.4	130.2
11 Beverages		60.9	75.1	76.0	93.3	43.2	50.1	62.6	73.8
12 Tobacco		14.4	14.7	13.7	15.3	31.2	31.4	34.8	56.3
2. CRUDE MATERIALS INEDIBLE	Total	101.0	106.3	89.8	119.2	411.8	432.6	475.2	515.8
21 Hides, skins and fur skins, undressed		23.2	20.6	11.7	25.2	33.8	24.5	23.9	30.3
22 Oil seeds, oil nuts and oil kernels		0.6	1.0	0.8	0.7	22.6	23.1	28.4	30.0
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)		8.7	9.9	8.8	10.4	15.4	18.6	18.2	22.8
24 Wood, lumber and cork		0.9	1.0	1.0	1.5	76.6	91.9	139.3	150.9
25 Pulp and waste paper		0.6	0.7	0.8	1.5	46.0	47.1	52.8	55.6
26 Textile fibres not manufactured and their waste		40.0	44.9	40.1	47.1	88.8	88.6	69.9	75.1
27 Crude fertilisers and minerals		14.1	15.0	14.5	16.7	19.1	20.2	20.6	20.9
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap		8.6	8.9	7.8	10.8	86.9	100.0	100.4	102.2
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials		4.3	4.3	4.3	5.3	22.7	18.6	21.7	28.0
3. MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS, ETC.	Total	66.1	61.7	111.5	130.7	360.0	386.1	422.0	559.1
33 Petroleum and petroleum products		59.0	55.3	104.3	121.9	348.5	375.8	413.2	544.3
Coal, coke, gas and electric energy		7.0	6.5	7.2	8.8	11.5	10.3	8.8	14.8
4. ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	Total	3.0	3.7	4.4	6.1	23.3	29.8	33.6	42.8
5. CHEMICALS	Total	286.2	320.7	310.2	355.3	201.0	206.1	233.4	256.9
51 Chemical elements and compounds		78.1	89.3	91.1	106.0	78.0	81.1	93.9	107.8
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials		31.3	34.5	34.6	40.1	14.2	14.9	16.1	15.1
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products		50.5	56.7	54.5	59.6	14.4	15.8	19.1	17.6
55 Essential oils and perfume materials		22.0	24.7	24.3	25.9	10.5	12.4	14.1	14.6
56 Fertilisers, manufactured		3.9	3.7	2.1	5.0	12.1	7.6	7.5	8.0
58 Plastic materials and artificial resins		52.2	56.8	52.3	63.8	44.7	47.5	52.7	60.1
All other chemical materials and products		48.3	55.0	51.3	54.9	27.1	26.8	30.0	33.7
6. MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	Total	734.2	803.6	804.7	915.9	747.4	778.6	841.9	1,015.4
61 Leather, leather manufactures and dressed furs		21.4	22.1	17.7	22.7	17.9	19.0	16.1	15.4
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.		28.2	32.5	29.5	31.0	14.2	14.1	13.4	15.4
63 Wood and cork manufactures (excluding furniture)		3.1	4.1	3.7	4.6	52.6	49.9	64.0	77.8
64 Paper, paperboard and manufactures thereof		29.5	33.1	30.9	35.2	95.0	88.5	106.4	112.4
65 Textile yarn, fabrics and articles		130.7	151.8	142.5	164.6	122.2	118.8	125.9	148.0
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures		219.6	235.6	281.5	273.2	171.9	215.4	199.7	270.4
67 Iron and steel		104.6	113.4	100.6	114.4	86.6	72.2	91.2	123.8
68 Non-ferrous metals		117.0	124.9	115.6	180.3	142.0	153.9	173.5	190.5
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.		80.2	86.1	82.8	89.9	45.0	47.0	51.7	61.7
7. MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	Total	1,135.2	1,226.6	1,146.6	1,266.7	758.0	786.4	812.5	936.3
71 Machinery other than electric		575.5	633.3	575.1	629.1	354.1	362.8	377.9	431.6
72 Electric machinery, apparatus and appliances		191.3	203.4	191.4	221.2	179.8	200.2	213.7	254.0
73 Transport equipment		368.4	389.9	380.1	416.4	224.1	223.5	220.9	250.6
8. MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	Total	252.2	275.8	292.5	329.4	282.8	326.9	338.0	392.0
81 Sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings		7.0	6.8	6.5	8.2	6.1	6.6	6.5	8.9
82 Furniture		8.9	11.0	11.0	13.2	14.2	15.5	15.5	17.8
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar articles		1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	3.1	3.6	4.1	4.1
84 Clothing		35.2	37.3	50.7	56.4	71.4	75.6	89.5	97.1
85 Footwear		8.0	7.4	9.0	11.1	21.2	21.3	19.7	22.1
86 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments, photographic and optical goods, watches and clocks		79.3	87.2	85.4	91.9	62.9	68.8	71.6	78.9
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.		112.8	125.1	128.5	147.3	104.0	135.5	131.1	163.2
5-8. MANUFACTURED GOODS	Total	2,407.9	2,626.7	2,554.0	2,867.3	1,989.2	2,098.1	2,225.8	2,600.6
9. COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	Total	66.6	69.1	76.2	108.4	39.2	29.3	36.3	46.3
TOTAL ALL SECTIONS		2,827.7	3,074.7	3,056.1	3,496.5	3,568.9	3,722.5	3,939.6	4,623.4

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Engineering industries sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX)

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted index numbers of sales and orders up to January 1974 in the engineering industry are published in the accompanying table. The rate of inflow of net new orders has fallen off in recent months, particularly in the home market, the trend of total new orders being 10 per cent lower in January than in October 1973 and that of home new orders 13½ per cent lower. This was partly a reflection of a low seasonally adjusted index for January which was 26 per cent below the level of new home orders in the fourth quarter, and possibly reflected problems and uncertainties during the power emergency and the 'three-day-week'. The seasonally adjusted index of home sales was also depressed in January, with a fall of 9 per cent compared with the last quarter of 1973 before the power emegency developed.

Between October 1973 and January 1974, the trend of total sales eased a little as export sales showed a small rise and home sales declined by 3 per cent; the trends of new home orders and sales were at similar levels during January. During the same three months, orders-on-hand in the home market increased by 2½ per cent.

In the export market, the trend of net new orders has fallen away by 3 per cent from October to January, but export sales have maintained their steady growth of 2 per cent, with orders-on-hand increasing by 7½ per cent. The total effect in both markets between October and January has been to lower the trend estimate of total sales by 1½ per cent, to diminish net new orders by 10 per cent, and to extend orders-on-hand by 4 per cent; however, as indicated above, the trend of sales and new orders are beginning to be affected by the emergency short-period working in industry earlier this year.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders vii, viii and ix) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand, December 1963 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1963 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales
Trend Estimates									
1972 November	125	167	156	109	169	157	181	163	154
December	127	172	159	110	172	160	183	170	157
1973 January	129	177	162	112	178	164	185	174	158
February	131	182	165	115	185	167	188	177	159
March	134	188	167	117	191	170	191	179	160
April	137	193	169	120	197	172	195	183	162
May	140	198	171	123	201	173	200	192	165
June	144	203	172	126	203	174	207	203	167
July	148	208	175	129	205	176	215	215	170
August	152	211	177	131	206	179	224	223	173
September	156	211	179	134	204	180	232	227	176
October	159	206	180	136	198	180	240	227	178
November	162	200	179	137	190	179	247	225	180
December	164	193	179	138	181	178	253	222	181
1974 January	166	186	177	139	172	175	257	221	182
Percentage Increase (c)									
Oct. 1973-Jan. 1974	4.0	−10.0	−1.5	2.5	−13.5	−3.0	7.5	−3.0	2.0
Seasonally Adjusted									
1969	123	136	130	106	132	130	181	147	131
1970	122	136	136	105	131	132	183	147	146
1971	119	134	137	102	131	133	175	141	145
1972	127	157	147	110	161	150	184	148	141
1973	165	199	174	139	197	175	254	204	170
1972 4th quarter	127	166	155	110	165	155	184	168	154
1973 1st quarter	135	188	169	118	191	172	191	179	162
2nd quarter	143	192	168	124	193	170	209	189	163
3rd quarter	157	212	175	134	207	177	234	225	171
4th quarter	165	205	183	139	197	183	254	223	182
1972 October	124	165	157	108	166	157	179	164	156
November	125	164	158	109	165	158	180	160	159
December	127	168	150	110	163	151	184	180	148
1973 January	128	175	165	112	177	166	185	169	164
February	131	191	168	114	190	171	190	194	160
March	135	198	175	118	207	180	191	175	163
April	138	186	161	121	193	164	194	171	154
May	139	178	169	123	182	171	194	166	165
June	143	211	174	124	204	176	209	231	171
July	148	219	178	129	221	179	215	213	175
August	153	213	174	133	211	176	223	219	168
September	157	204	174	134	189	175	234	242	171
October	159	200	185	135	191	187	241	222	182
November	163	221	189	138	220	189	246	222	187
December	165	194	174	139	181	172	254	225	176
1974 January	164	165	171	137	146	167	259	213	181
Aug.-October 1973 (av).	159	206	178	135	197	179	241	228	174
Nov. 1973-Jan. 1974 (av).	164	193	178	137	183	176	259	220	181
Percentage Increase (b) (c)	3.5	−6.0	—	1.5	−7.5	−1.5	7.5	−3.5	4.5

(a) All figures are provisional.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period.
(c) The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point for statistical convenience.

Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to January 1974. While response of 81 per cent to the inquiry is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month, it should be emphasised that the variability of the January figures, due to short-time working, reduces the effectiveness of our estimation procedure for non-response, with the result that these initial estimates may be subject to larger revision than is usual. Taking into account the returns now received for October, November and December 1973, the response rates for these months were 92, 90 and 86 per cent respectively.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), which provides more detailed statistical tables and analyses of the engineering industries, is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £1 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Retail sales: provisional estimates for April

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the *volume* of retail sales in April is 108.5 (1971 = 100) – between 1½ and 2 per cent below the figure for March. It seems likely that some expenditure which might otherwise have occurred in April may have been taken up by pre-Budget spending in the previous month.

The estimate suggests a volume of sales in the first four months of the year 1½ per cent below the level in the second half of last year.

The *provisional* estimate of the *value* of sales in April, based on non-seasonally adjusted data, shows a rise of 15 per cent compared with a year earlier.

	Retail Sales: Volume Seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Retail Sales: Value Not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier	
1973	1st quarter	111.8	1st quarter	+16
	2nd quarter	108.0	2nd quarter	+12
	3rd quarter	110.5	3rd quarter	+12
	4th quarter	112.3	4th quarter	+13
1974	1st quarter	110.1	1st quarter	+11
1973	January	109.2	January	+14
	February	111.6	February	+16
	March	114.0	March	+17
	April	106.9	April	+13
	..		..	
	..		..	
	..		..	
1974	January	109.5	January	+12
	February	110.3	February	+11
	March	110.4	March	+ 9
	April	108.5 (provisional)	April	+15 (provisional)

Notes

Provisional figures: The *volume index* is given to the nearest quarter per cent. The percentage *increase in value* compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimates was published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 February 1974.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for April will be published in a press notice on Tuesday, 4 June.

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Turnover of the catering trades in March

The total turnover of the catering trades in the first quarter of 1974 was nearly 5 per cent more than in the fourth quarter of last year, at current prices and after allowing for normal seasonal movements. This was a greater increase than in other recent periods, reflecting the marked downturn in the fourth quarter of last year.

Recent percentage increases compared with a year earlier (*not* seasonally adjusted) for the main kinds of business are as follows:

	All caterers	Licensed hotels and holiday camps	Restaurants cafes and fish and chip shops	Public houses	Canteens
1973 4th quarter	11	14	11	10	10
1974 1st quarter	13	13	12	13	10
March	12	12	11	11	14

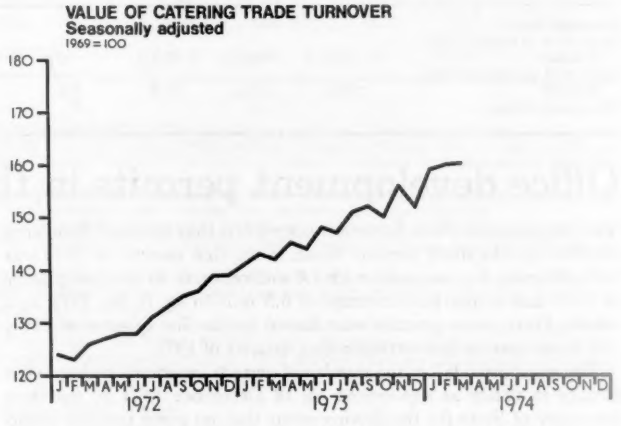
VALUE OF CATERING TRADE TURNOVER
Seasonally adjusted
1969 = 100
180
170
160
150
140
130
120
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1972
1973
1974

TABLE 1 Turnover of all caterers seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of turnover per week (†) 1969 = 100

		Value at current prices (Turnover in 1969—£2,533 million)
1969		100
1970		108
1971		118
1972		131
1973		148
1970	1st quarter	105
	2nd quarter	108
	3rd quarter	109
	4th quarter	111
1971	1st quarter	115
	2nd quarter	117
	3rd quarter	119
	4th quarter	122
1972	1st quarter	125
	2nd quarter	128
	3rd quarter	133
	4th quarter	138
1973	1st quarter	142
	2nd quarter	146
	3rd quarter	150
	4th quarter	153
1974	1st quarter	160
1973	July	147
	August	151
	September*	152
	October	150
	November	156
	December*	152
1974	January	159
	February	160
	March*	160
1973	Oct.-Dec.	153
1974	Jan.-March	160
Percentage increase		*5*

† The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The March 1974 period was the five weeks from 24 February 1974 to 30 March 1974. The March 1973 period was the five weeks from 25 February 1973 to 31 March 1973.

The series are provisionally rebased using the broad results of the large scale inquiry into the catering trades for 1969. The detailed results of this inquiry will be incorporated in a final rebasing in due course.

A full report on the 1969 inquiry was published in November 1972 under the title 'Catering Trades 1969: Statistical Inquiry' (HMSO 32p net).

Provisional estimates of vehicle production and new car registrations in April

Tables 1 and 2 show United Kingdom vehicle production as estimated from provisional returns supplied by the major manufacturers.

Table 3 shows provisional estimates of new car registrations. These are based on data provided by the Department of the Environment for a sample of local authority areas.

TABLE 1 Estimated UK vehicle production in April 1974

Thousands

	Cars		Commercial vehicles	
	Month	Weekly average	Month	Weekly average
Estimated output:				
April 1974 (4 weeks ended 27 April)	122.0 p	30.5 p	28.0 p	7.0 p
April 1973 (4 weeks ended 28 April)	126.0	31.5	30.2	7.6
Percentage change		−3		−7

TABLE 2 UK vehicle production: Monthly averages seasonally adjusted

Thousands

	1973		1974				Average of		
	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Nov. 1973/ Jan. 1974	Feb./ Apr. 1974	% change
Cars	148	149	118	124	130	119 p	131	124 p	−5
Commercial vehicles	37.5	33.6	28.8	28.8	31.6	28.4 p	29.2	29.6 p	+1

TABLE 3 New car registrations

Thousands

	1973		1974					Per cent change latest 3 months on previous 3 months
	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
Recorded	438	302	327	101	108	119	103 p	
Seasonally adjusted	429	356	308	93	109	106	98 p	−3

Office development permits in the first quarter of 1974

The Department of the Environment reports that the total floor area of office development permits issued in the first quarter of 1974 was 3.0 million sq. ft., compared with 7.0 million sq. ft. in the first quarter of 1973 and a quarterly average of 6.5 million sq. ft. for 1973 as a whole. Forty-seven permits were issued in the first quarter of 1974, 102 fewer than in the corresponding quarter of 1973.

The substantial fall in the number of permits issued was owing to the change in policy as announced on 18 December 1973 by the then Secretary of State for the Environment that no more permits would be issued for the time being. At the end of January 1974 these restrictions were relaxed slightly so as to cover principally renewals or amendments of existing permits, and where specific undertakings to issue a permit had been given before the restrictions were introduced.

After deduction of relinquishments of existing offices and of floorspace covered by permits for the continuing use of existing offices included in the total figures, there was a potential addition to office space by way of new building and conversion of non-office premises to office use of 1.9 million sq. ft. in the first quarter of 1974. This compares with 5.3 million sq. ft. for the corresponding quarter of 1973 and a quarterly average of 4.8 million sq. ft. for 1973 as a whole.

Thirteen of the 47 permits issued in the first quarter of 1974 were for office development in Central London and covered 1.4 million sq. ft.; 31, covering 2.1 million sq. ft., were for development in the Greater London Council Area; and 40, covering 2.8 million sq. ft., for development in the Metropolitan Region. Seven permits for a total floorspace of 0.1 million sq. ft. were issued in the part of the South East Planning Region lying outside the Metropolitan Region.

Tables showing office development permits since 1965 appeared in the 14 March 1974 issue of *Trade and Industry*.

TABLE 1 Office development permits – sub-divisions of South East Planning Region

	Central London Area			GLC Area (excluding Central London)			Total GLC Area		
		Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.	
	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished
1971	198	12,246	4,212	122	6,633	1,185	320	18,879	5,397
1971 1st quarter	62	3,754	802	44	2,537	350	106	6,291	1,152
2nd quarter	54	3,523	1,334	35	2,273	457	89	5,796	1,791
3rd quarter	44	2,651	1,347	24	1,005	153	68	3,656	1,500
4th quarter	38	2,318	729	19	818	225	57	3,136	954
1972	139	10,302	3,788	125	7,299	1,496	264	17,601	5,284
1972 1st quarter	44	3,364	1,587	20	1,987	340	64	5,351	1,927
2nd quarter	40	3,229	1,112	49	2,353	605	89	5,582	1,717
3rd quarter	31	1,939	194	36	1,891	374	67	3,830	568
4th quarter	24	1,770	895	20	1,068	177	44	2,838	1,072
1973	126	7,677	2,567	137	8,001	844	263	15,678	3,411
1973 1st quarter	36	2,077	401	39	1,560	242	75	3,637	643
2nd quarter	32	1,565	72	45	2,651	62	77	4,216	134
3rd quarter	29	1,610	671	26	1,119	148	55	2,729	819
4th quarter	29	2,425	1,423	27	2,671	392	56	5,096	1,815
1974 1st quarter	13	1,425	313	18	681	94	31	2,106	407

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TABLE 1 Office development permits – sub-divisions of South East Planning Region *(continued)*

	Metropolitan Area (excluding GLC)			Total Metropolitan Area			South East (excluding Metropolitan Area)			Total South East		
		Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.	
	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished
1971	127	6,884	360	447	25,763	5,757	76	3,198	303	523	28,961	6,060
1971 1st quarter	26	860	70	132	7,151	1,222	19	744	121	151	7,895	1,343
2nd quarter	32	1,141	77	121	6,937	1,868	24	790	84	145	7,727	1,952
3rd quarter	40	2,158	65	108	5,814	1,585	12	437	18	120	6,251	1,583
4th quarter	29	2,725	148	86	5,861	1,102	21	1,227	80	107	7,088	1,182
1972	90	4,729	178	354	22,330	5,462	102	5,239	350	456	27,569	5,812
1972 1st quarter	22	1,949	50	86	7,300	1,977	31	1,612	99	117	8,912	2,076
2nd quarter	24	957	64	113	6,539	1,781	34	1,839	130	147	8,378	1,911
3rd quarter	25	1,225	42	92	5,055	610	23	1,179	61	115	6,234	671
4th quarter	19	598	22	63	3,436	1,094	14	609	60	77	4,045	1,154
1973	130	5,732	454	393	21,410	3,865	84	4,484	325	477	25,894	4,190
1973 1st quarter	51	2,260	109	126	5,897	752	23	1,086	99	149	6,983	851
2nd quarter	29	1,107	63	106	5,323	197	25	1,186	9	131	6,509	206
3rd quarter	34	1,272	148	89	4,001	967	18	852	37	107	4,853	1,004
4th quarter	16	1,093	134	72	6,189	1,949	18	1,360	180	90	7,549	2,129
1974 1st quarter	9	731	86	40	2,837	493	7	139	56	47	2,976	549

Notes to tables

Commencement of Controls. In the London Metropolitan Region the control began in August 1965, but with retrospective application to 5 November 1964 for some projects, as explained in the first Annual Report by the Board of Trade under the Act; this report was referred to in the *Board of Trade Journal* of 5 August 1966, page 324. The West Midlands Conurbation was brought within the control from 14 August 1965, while the parts of the South East and West Midlands Planning Regions not already controlled and the whole of East Midlands and East Anglia Planning Regions came under control on 21 July 1966.

Removal of Controls. From 25 February 1969, the East Anglia Planning Region and the predominantly rural areas of the West Midlands and East Midlands Planning Regions were excluded from control. The remaining areas of the West Midlands and East Midlands Planning Regions were excluded from control on 16 December 1970.

Changes in exemption limit. From 27 July 1967, the exemption limit for permits was raised from 3,000 square feet to 10,000 square feet except in the Metropolitan Region. From 25 February 1969 this change was extended to the areas of the Metropolitan Region outside Greater London. The exemption limit in Greater London was raised to 10,000 square feet from 16 December 1970.

Modification of Control. From 1 April 1969, office development permits were in most cases no longer needed for developments within the curtilage of an industrial building for which an industrial development certificate was issued. The figures for the year 1968 included 168 permits of this type, with gross area 2,485,000 square feet (18 per cent of the total area of permits issued) and an area net of relinquishments of 2,103,000 square feet (24 per cent of the net total).

Definitions of Areas. The planning regions correspond to the new standard regions for statistical purposes as defined in the *Board of Trade Journal* of 31 December 1965, page 1567. Central London is the Greater London Conurbation Centre as defined in the General Register Office Census 1961 County Report: London. The Metropolitan Region, an area of some 40 miles radius from the Centre of London, is as defined in Schedule 2 of the Control of Office and Industrial Development Act, 1965, but from 1 January 1972 for statistical reasons the Outer Metropolitan Sub-division (Rest of Metropolitan Region) and the Outer South-East Sub-division (Rest of South East Planning Region) are as defined in the Regional Abstract of Statistics No. 7; the areas defined under the Act are unchanged.

Area relinquished. Comprises office floor space relinquished for demolition or change of use to non-office uses.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 10 May 1974.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Movietone News 2344	BR/E 37243/12/5/79	8	10 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2344A	BR/E 37244/12/5/79	8	10 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
Maniac at Large	EC 37452/12/5/79	95	8 May	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.	S.E.F.I. Cinematografica, Rome and Producciones Balcazar, Madrid
			FOREIGN		
Huckleberry Finn	F 37445	154	7 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Apjac Productions Inc.
Busting	F 37446	93	7 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Chartoff-Winkler Productions Inc.
I Escaped From Devil's Island	F 37447	87	7 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	The Corman Company Inc.
Brave Bunch	F 37448	109	7 May	Cathay Films Ltd.	Carayannis Carajopoulos S.A., Athens
Just For Nothing	F 37449	89	7 May	Cathay Films Ltd.	Cimex S.P.A., Mexico
Colter's Hell	F 37450	12	7 May	Contemporary Films Ltd.	R. A. Films, London
Hot Hard and Mean	F 37451	83	7 May	New Realm Distributors Ltd.	American International Picture Corporation
Sex and the Lonely Woman	F 37453	84	8 May	Ember Film Distributors Ltd.	Vincent Quondamateo Productions, Buenos Aires
Smashing The Crime Syndicate	F 37454	95	8 May	Ember Film Distributors Ltd.	Independent International
Grave of the Vampire	F 37455	91	8 May	Ember Film Distributors Ltd.	Millenium Productions
Tomb of the Undead	F 37456	59	8 May	Ember Film Distributors Ltd.	Millenium Productions
Exorcism's Daughter	F 37457	109	9 May	Doverton Films Ltd.	Productora Cinematografica Del Norte S.A., Madrid
Kung Fu Girl Fighter	F 37458	95	9 May	Doverton Films Ltd.	Hong Kong Dak Lee Film Company, Taiwan

Amendment to the Register:
The registration certificate in respect of the film 'Mr. Hercules Against Karate' (EC 37358/17/3/79), registered on 14 March 1974 has been amended to show the following details: title: 'Hercules Against Kung Fu', playing time: 89 minutes.

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Steel consumption and stocks in the first quarter of 1974

Consumption of steel

Consumption of finished steel in the first quarter of 1974 is provisionally estimated to have been 4.3 million tonnes (5.8 million tonnes ingot equivalent), after seasonal adjustment. Despite three-day working by manufacturing industry during most of the quarter, consumption of steel remained at a fairly high level, at annual rates some 6 per cent lower than consumption in the record year of 1973, when consumption reached 18.4 million tonnes. During the quarter, production of crude steel was just over 20 per cent below the November 1973 level, while deliveries of finished steel were less than 10 per cent below. This difference resulted principally from a very substantial rundown of producers' stocks in both semi-finished and finished steel.

Stocks

At the same time, stocks of steel held by consumers and merchants are estimated to have increased by over half-a-million tonnes, which is easily the largest ever quarterly stock increase. Consumer stocks are estimated to be at their highest ever level.

Finished steel: estimated UK consumption

NB All quantities are expressed in metric units (1 imperial ton = 1.016 tonnes)

		Actual consumption				Seasonally adjusted consumption thousand tonnes	
		Thousand tonnes		Per cent change over previous year			
		(a)		(a)		(a)	
1968	1st quarter	4,246		+ 4.5		4,078	
	2nd quarter	4,299		+ 3.6		4,146	
	3rd quarter	3,992		+13.2		4,308	
	4th quarter	4,298		+ 4.9		4,303	
	Total	16,835		+ 6.3			
1969	1st quarter	4,608		+ 8.5		4,434	
	2nd quarter	4,685		+ 9.0		4,525	
	3rd quarter	4,087		+ 2.4		4,419	
	4th quarter	4,402		+ 2.4		4,404	
	Total	17,782		+ 5.6			
1970	1st quarter	4,627		+ 0.4		4,514	
	2nd quarter	4,582		− 2.2		4,364	
	3rd quarter*	4,132		+ 1.1		4,463	
	4th quarter	4,296		− 2.4		4,296	
	Total	17,637		− 0.8			
		(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
1971	1st quarter	4,660	4,696	+0.7		4,488	4,520
	2nd quarter	4,318	4,303	−5.8		4,172	4,158
	3rd quarter	3,801	3,763	−8.0		4,108	4,067
	4th quarter	4,022	3,960	−6.4		4,033	3,977
	Total	16,801	16,722	−4.7			
1972	1st quarter		4,029		−14.2		3,933
	2nd quarter		4,246		− 1.3		4,043
	3rd quarter		3,958		+ 5.2		4,275
	4th quarter		4,517		+14.1		4,499
	Total		16,750		+ 0.2		
1973	1st quarter		4,909		+21.8		4,667
	2nd quarter		4,498		+ 5.9		4,368
	3rd quarter		4,253		+ 7.5		4,599
	4th quarter		4,785		+ 5.9		4,811
	Total		18,445		+10.1		
1974	1st quarter p		4,560		− 7.1		4,335

*14-week statistical period: figures reduced to a 13-week basis for purposes of comparability.
p provisional.
(a) excluding welded tubes over 16 in. outer diameter.
(b) including welded tubes over 16 in. outer diameter.

Distribution of petroleum and lubricants in the United Kingdom 1969-71

The following information has been obtained from the answers supplied by 23 petrol companies to a survey carried out by the then Department of Trade and Industry. This information has been collected as part of the supervision of the undertakings given by these companies to the then Board of Trade following the Monopolies Commission report on the supply of petroleum to retailers in the United Kingdom. The responsibility for the supervision of these and other similar undertakings now rests with the Director General of Fair Trading.

The figures indicate market trends in petrol retailing for the period 1969-71 and are broadly comparable to the figures published in the *Board of Trade Journal* of 21 January 1970. The figures for lubricants are the sales of petrol companies' own brands through all types of retail outlet. Sales of other brands or lubricants, even if these are owned by a petrol company, have been excluded.

TABLE 1 Sales of petrol to retailers

Million gallons

	1969	1970	1971
Total sales to all retailers	3,438	3,700	3,912
Of which: sales through company-owned stations	1,442	1,695	1,880
1 Managed by companies	90	144	185
2 Leased or licensed by companies	1,290	1,471	1,599
3 Operated by other methods	62	80	96

TABLE 2 Sales of lubricants to retailers

Million gallons

	1969	1970	1971
Total sales by petrol companies*	20.9	21.8	22.8
Of which			
(A) Sales through company-owned stations	6.7	7.3	8.0
1 Managed by companies	0.4	0.5	0.6
2 Leased or licensed by the companies	6.2	6.6	7.1
3 Operated by other methods	0.1	0.2	0.3
(B) Sales through stations having a solus agreement with the company for petrol	10.3	9.9	10.1

* Not including agricultural grade lubricants.

TABLE 3 Company owned stations and contracted sites

	1969	1970	1971
Total number of sites contracted to petrol companies under a solus agreement	24,508	23,149	21,319
Of which owned by petrol companies	8,317	8,586	8,964
1 Managed by companies	433	477	584
2 Leased or licensed by companies	7,648	7,835	8,031
3 Operated by other methods	236	274	349

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Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	18 Oct. 1973
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	2 May 1974
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	18 Apr. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	29 Nov. 1973
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	7 Mar. 1974
Capital expenditure:	
distributive and service trades (A)	28 Apr. 1971
manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	4 Apr. 1974
Catering trades turnover (M)	This week
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Aug. 1973
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	28 Feb. 1974
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	25 Apr. 1974
N. Ireland (M)	11 Apr. 1974
Computers: UK market (Q)	24 May 1973
Construction work overseas (A)	11 Oct. 1973
Electronic capital equipment (Q)	21 June 1973
Energy trends (M)	25 Apr. 1974
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry:	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	11 Apr. 1974
cinema admissions and takings (M)	2 May 1974
overseas payments and earnings (A)	9 Aug. 1973
registration of films (A)	31 Jan. 1974
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1974
household consumption (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Footwear industry:	
production, orders and deliveries (M)	2 May 1974
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	9 May 1974
Foreign trade:	
industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
world exports of manufactures (A)	30 Sept. 1970
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	11 Apr. 1974
Hire-purchase business (M)	9 May 1974
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	25 Apr. 1974
N. Ireland index (M)	25 Apr. 1974
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	30 Aug. 1973
Investment:	
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industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	10 Jan. 1974
investment and earnings overseas (A)	29 Mar. 1973
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	11 Apr. 1974
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
production (M)	11 Apr. 1974
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	2 May 1974
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motor trade turnover (Q)	21 Feb. 1974
Office development permits (Q)	This week
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	10 May 1973
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(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	30 Aug. 1973
Retail prices index (M)	2 May 1974
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	9 May 1974
provisional figures	This week
sales, N. Ireland (M)	2 May 1974
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	12 Apr. 1973
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	6 Dec. 1973
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	This week
Stocks:	
distributive and service trades (A)	28 Apr. 1971
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	4 Apr. 1974
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	9 Aug. 1973
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1974
carpet sales (M)	2 May 1974
cotton industry production (M)	28 Mar. 1974
hosiery production (M)	21 Mar. 1974
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	2 May 1974
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	2 May 1974
wool exports (Q)	14 June 1973
wool output (M)	28 Mar. 1974
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	25 Apr. 1974
overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Feb. 1974
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	18 Apr. 1974

Departmental organisation etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representation overseas	4 Apr. 1974
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	9 May 1974
ECGD local offices	9 May 1974
Guide to DTI	6 Dec. 1973
Official Receivers' offices	11 Apr. 1974
Programme of trade promotions	2 May 1974
Release dates of economic statistics	25 Apr. 1974

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Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

22 and 23 May 1974 Vehicles and Plant

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts.

Auctioneers: Walker Walton & Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (Tel: 0602-54272)

1,400 lots comprising 425 saloons, limousines, estate cars, mini buses and light vans, including 225 Morris Mini and Minor 1000 saloons and Travellers. 370 Land Rovers, motor cycles, mobile cranes by Coles, Ransome & Rapier and Taylor, agricultural tractors, factory trucks, fork lift trucks, loading shovels and dozers by Bray, Fowler, Gainsborough and Michigan. Scrapers, Bedford RL trucks fitted Cheshire augers, AEC and Bedford vans fitted generators, crane and piledriver equipment to fit NCK, Ruston Bucyrus 19 RB and Blaw Knox machines. 480 commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Leyland and Scammel, AEC 10 ton three-way tippers, Scammel 6 x 6 breakdown trucks, 140 trailers (10 cwt.-50 ton), refuelers (800-2,500 gallons), Austin K9 1 ton vans, trucks and water tankers, Bedford RL 7 ton trucks, Thorneycroft, Mighty Antar 50 ton tractors and Fire Tenders. Most to be sold as single lots.

30 May 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Lido Hall, Worthy Lane, Winchester, Hants.

Auctioneers: Austin & Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7AX (Tel: 03292-4211)

The lots on offer include aluminium ware, electric motors, electrical-MT and wireless spares, mowers, tools, tyres, scrap metal, 100 machine tools, grinders, lathes, saw benches, drillers, millers, etc. 55,000 jerricans, 300 lots of furniture which include bureaux, chairs and settees. 280 lots of clothing and textiles including blankets, carpets, jerseys, rags and raincoats.

Catalogues of the above sales, which gives details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the relevant auctioneers from two weeks prior to and up to the date of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

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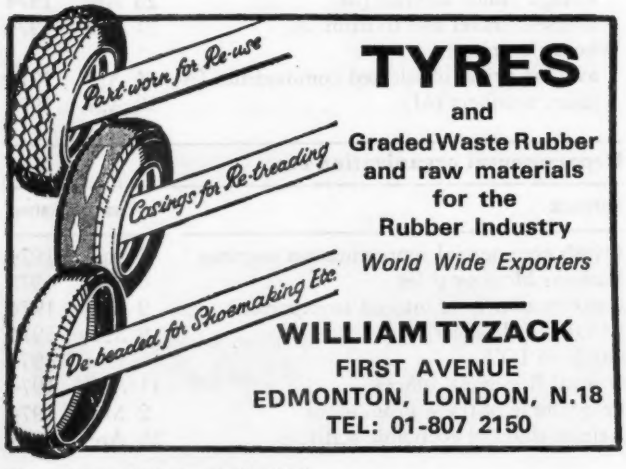
Tenders must be returned by 10 a.m. on 5 June 1974.



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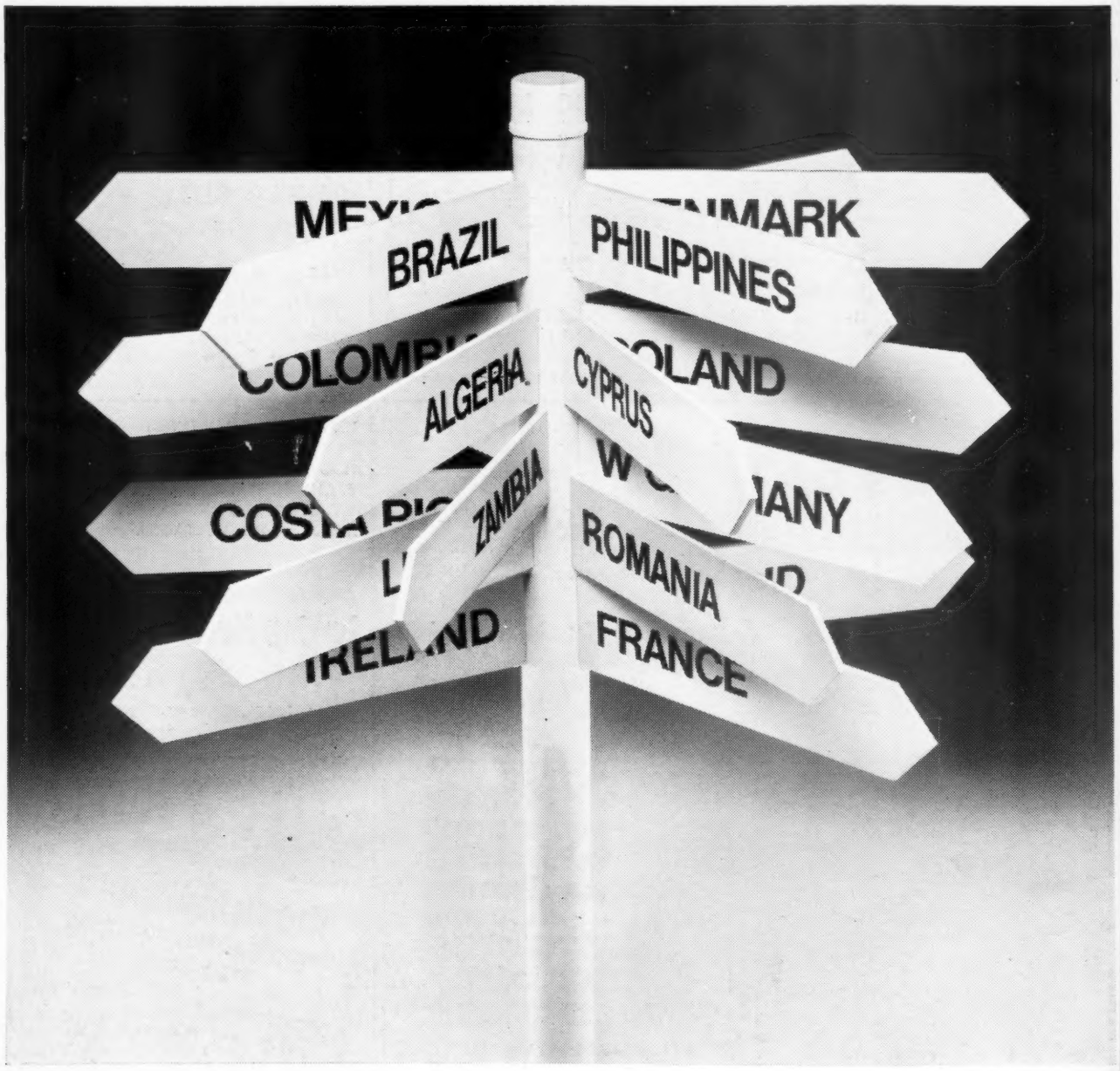
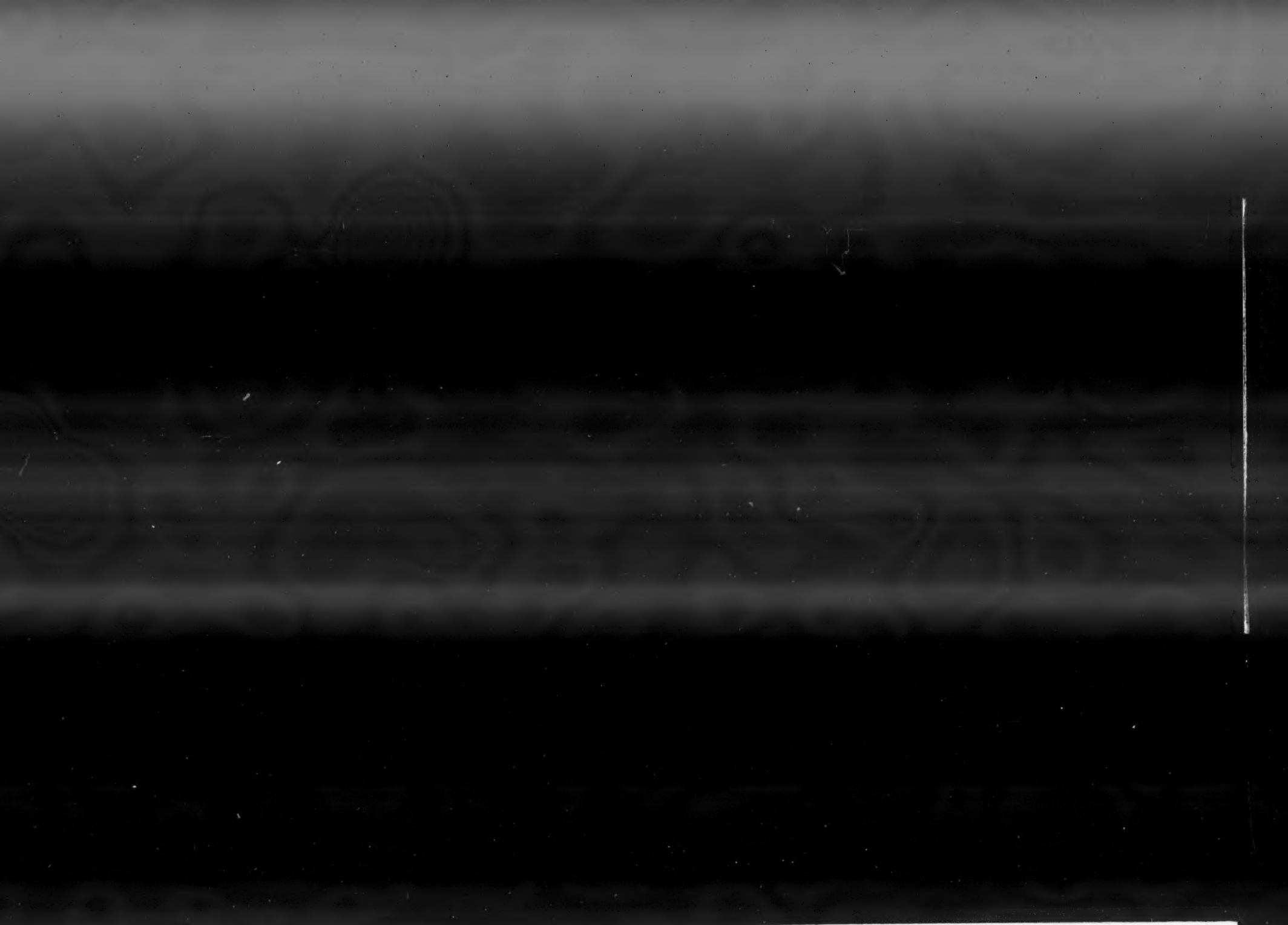
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